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ANNUAL REPORT

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M O N T A N A
RURAL AREAS DEVELOPMENT
COMMITTEE

MARCH 1, 1978

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INCLUDES:

R.A.D. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS AND ALTERNATES
SUBCOMMITTEES AND SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS



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OBJECTIVE & PURPOSE

The chief objective of the Montana State Rural Areas Development Committee is to help develop the human and natural resources of the rural areas of the state to their fullest potential by developing processes among the people for continually solving their problems. The primary function of the RAD Committee is to establish policies, provide incentives for rural areas development and to give statewide administration and direction to county and area RAD Committees.

RAD EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND ALTERNATES

<u>Executive Committee</u>	<u>Alternates</u>
(Chairman) Torlief S. Aasheim 517 West Koch Bozeman, MT 59715	Riley Childers P.O. Box 1306 Great Falls, MT 59401
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Dick Setterstrom Basin Creek Route Butte, MT 59701	(No alternate named)
Carl J. Hoffman, Director Mont. Coop. Extension Service MSU, Bozeman, MT 59717	(No alternate named)

(Secretary) Jim DeBree, Coop. Extension Service, MSU, Bozeman, Montana

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Forestry Subcommittee
Don Wood, Chairman

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Ray Woodward, Chairman

Range Management Subcommittee
Harold Simmes, Chairman

Recreation Subcommittee
Ron Batchelor, Chairman

Remote Sensing Subcommittee
David Armstrong, Chairman

Soils Subcommittee
Neil Christensen, Chairman

Weed Subcommittee
Douglas Johnson, Chairman

Wildlife Subcommittee
Harry McNeal, Chairman

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT SUBCOMMITTEE

PURPOSE:

This subcommittee shall focus its attention on matters pertaining to Community Development in Montana for the purpose of:

1. Serving in a coordinating role by bringing together agencies, groups and organizations which have an interest in the development of Montana communities for the purpose of:
 - a) Identifying and documenting problems and opportunities relating to Montana communities,
 - b) Obtaining a consensus as to priority of need and documenting their findings,
 - c) Developing a plan for implementation of a program deemed appropriate through research education, legislation or other action.
2. Make recommendations to the State RAD Committee based on these findings.

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EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REP:

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FARM SAFETY SUBCOMMITTEE

PURPOSE:

This subcommittee shall focus its attention on matters pertaining to farm safety for the purpose of:

1. Serving in a coordinating role by bringing together agencies, groups and organizations which have an interest in farm safety for the purpose of:
 - a) Identifying and documenting farm safety related problems and opportunities,
 - b) Obtaining a consensus as to priority of need and documenting their findings,
 - c) Developing a plan for implementation of a program deemed appropriate through research, education, legislation or other action.
2. Make recommendations to the State RAD Committee based on these findings.

MEMBERS:

Kenneth Bruwelheide, Chairman
Assistant Professor
Ag. & Industrial Education
Creative Arts Complex
MSU, Bozeman, MT 59717
994-3201

Bill Erickson
Director of Education
Montana Farmers Union
Box 2447
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452-6406

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Environmental Planner
State Dept. of Agriculture
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State ASCS
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587-4511

Max Salazar
Bureau Chief
Bureau of Safety and Health
815 Front Street
Helena, MT 59601
449-3402

Clint Fulkerson
Manager -- Safety Unit
State Department of Highways
Helena, MT 59601
449-2071

James Camp
Mont. Hdwe. Implement Assn.
Gallatin Equipment
Box 1127
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587-1586 - Home Phone
587-4281 - Business

Rosella Hegre, Secretary
Montana Farm Bureau
Wilsall, MT 59086
587-2302

Leroy Keilman
Bureau of Land Management
316 North 26th Street
Billings, MT 59101
245-6711

(CONTINUED)

FARM SAFETY SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS

Francis E. Keller
Mont. Motor Trans. Assn. Inc.
Keller Transport, Inc.
Route #1, Katy Lane
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Stan Milesnick
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Charles L. Urquhart
Mont. Grain Growers Assoc.
3443 12th Avenue, South
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452-8141

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPS:

J. R. Iman
Route 2, Box 2363
Hamilton, MT 59840

Gerhard Seidler
Brady, MT 59416

FORESTRY SUBCOMMITTEE

PURPOSE:

This subcommittee shall focus its attention on matters pertaining to Forestry (which includes farm forestry shelterbelts, windbreaks, sound barriers and wildlife plantings) for the purpose of:

1. Serving in a coordinating role by bringing together agencies, groups and organizations which have an interest in forestry for the purpose of:
 - a) Identifying and documenting forestry-related problems and opportunities,
 - b) Obtaining a consensus as to priority of need and documenting their findings,
 - c) Developing a plan for implementation of a program deemed appropriate through research, education, legislation or other action.
2. Make recommendations to the State RAD Committee based on these findings.

(NOTE: This subcommittee also serves as the Montana Woodland Council)

MEMBERS:

Donald M. Wood -- Chairman
Wood Forestry Service
125 Glacier Drive
Lolo, MT 59847

Everett V. Darlington
Division of Planning & Economic
Development
Helena, MT 59601

Harry McNeal
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Dillon, MT 59725

Harold Hunter
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Procurement Forester
Champion Timberlands
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Missoula, MT 59806

Paul Kipp
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(CONTINUED)

FORESTRY SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS:

Orville McCarver
Extension Horticulturist
County Extension Service
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Clayton Ogle
Ass't. State Conservationist
(Operations)
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Dr. William R. Pierce
School of Forestry
University of Montana
Missoula, MT 59801

Dr. Charles Rust
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William Sherwood
Montana Power Company
40 East Broadway
Butte, MT 59701

Ole M. Ueland
Dept. of Natural Resources &
Conservation
Natural Resources Building
Helena, MT 59601

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Montana Assn. of Nurserymen
Box 1871
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Polly Renne
Montana Wilderness Association
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Ralph Klawitter
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USDA, Horticulture Division
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Gene Yavah
St. Regis Company
Libby, MT 59923

Russ Hudson
St. Regis Company
Libby, MT 59923

Chester Apeland
Chairman, Farm Forestry Committee
Montana Assn. of Conservation
Districts
Fortine, MT 59918

Robert Wambach, Director
Montana Fish & Game Department
Helena, MT 59601

Larry Blasing
Inland Forest Resources Council
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John R. Host, Economist
USFS, Forestry Sciences Lab
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Bill Magnuson
Cooperative Forestry, USFS
Federal Building
Missoula, MT 59801

(CONTINUED)

FORESTRY SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS:

George Kantz
108 Julia Martin Drive
Bozeman, MT 59715

Robert J. Kelly
Public Relations Manager
Rocky Mountain Region
Champion International Corp.
619 S.W. Higgins Ave., Suite "O"
Missoula, MT 59801

Jim W. Toole Farm, Inc.
Route 4, 48 Street West
Billings, MT 59102

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPS:

Robert LeProwse
Personnel - Loss Prevention Manager
Champion Timberlands
P.O. Box 3598
Missoula, MT 59806

Dick Setterstrom
Division of Planning and Economic
Development
Basin Creek Road
Butte, MT 59701

Torlief Aasheim
517 West Koch
Bozeman, MT 59715

LIVESTOCK SUBCOMMITTEE

PURPOSE:

This subcommittee shall focus its attention on matters pertaining to Livestock Production and Marketing (which includes cattle and sheep) for the purpose of:

1. Serving in coordinating roles by bringing together agencies, groups and organizations which have an interest in the Montana livestock industry for the purpose of:
 - a) Identifying and documenting livestock-related problems and opportunities,
 - b) Obtaining a consensus as to priority of need and documenting their findings,
 - c) Developing a plan for implementing a program deemed appropriate through research, education, legislation or other action.
2. Make recommendations to the State RAD Committee based on these findings.

MEMBERS:

Ray Woodward, Chairman
U.S. Range Livestock Exp.
Station
Miles City, MT 59301

Dale Davis
13 Central Avenue
Belgrade, MT 59714

Charles Balsam
Powderville Stage
Miles City, MT 59301

Roger Brownson
Cooperative Extension Service
MSU, Bozeman, MT 59717

Don Burnham
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Helena, MT 59601

Dr. Jack Catlin
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Dick Davidson
Patton-Davidson Feedlot
Park City, MT 59063

Mons Teigen
Montana Stockgrowers Ass'n.
Helena, MT 59601

John Davis
Northwestern National Bank
Great Falls, MT 59403

Dr. H. E. Furguson
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Anaconda, MT 59711

Dr. James Glosser
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Leo McDonnell
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Dr. Lavon Sumption
Montana Livestock Cooperative
P.O. Box 6636
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Robert Thoft
Route 1, Box 45
Stevensville, MT 59870

(CONTINUED)

LIVESTOCK COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

: Keith Williams
: Montana Power Company
: Billings, MT 59103

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPS:

Bernard Harkness
President, Montana Farm Bureau
Dell, MT 59724

Burton Brewster
Birney, MT 59012

RANGE MANAGEMENT SUBCOMMITTEE

PURPOSE:

This subcommittee shall focus its attention on matters pertaining to Range Management for the purpose of:

1. Serving in a coordinating role by bringing together agencies, groups and organizations which have an interest in the range lands of Montana for the purpose of:
 - a) Identifying and documenting range-related problems and opportunities.
 - b) Obtaining a consensus as to priority of need and documenting their findings,
 - c) Developing a plan for implementation of a program deemed appropriate through research, education, legislation or other action.
2. Make recommendations to the State RAD Committee based on these findings.

(NOTE: This subcommittee also serves as the Montana Rangeland Resource Committee).

MEMBERS:

Harold Simmes, Chairman
Box 401
Sunburst, MT 59482
937-3952

Alice Fryslie
Montana Cattlemen's Assoc.
515 Tamarack
Helena, MT 59601
442-4595

Dennis Nathe, Vice Chairman
Redstone, MT 59257
895-2527

Ted Russell
U.S.D.A., Forest Service
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329-3289

Bill Wegner
Worden, MT 59088

John Hollenback
Gold Creek, MT 59733
288-3382

Charles Greene
U.S.D.A., Farmers Home Admin.
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587-4183

Dick Kurth
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622-5155

Joe Zacek
U.S.D.A., Soil Conservation Service
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587-5271, ext. 4292

Pete Jackson
WETA, Northwestern Bank Bldg.
Helena, MT 59601
443-5541

(CONTINUED)

RANGE MANAGEMENT SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS:

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Bozeman, MT 59715
587-5271

Dr. Carl Wambolt
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Willie Milliron
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Bob Gilbert
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549-6511

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657-6387

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Dick Cleveland
U.S.D.I., Bureau of Land
Management
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657-6474

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449-3757

Wilbur Erbe
Mont. Dept. of State Lands
1625 Eleventh Avenue
Helena, MT 59601
449-2074

Vince Frezzo
Mont. Dept. of Natural Resources
and Conservation
32 South Ewing
Helena, MT 59601
(Missoula no. 728-2831)

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPS:

Gordon Twedt
Box 1244
Great Falls, MT 59403

Torlief S. Aasheim
517 West Koch
Bozeman, MT 59715

RECREATION SUBCOMMITTEE

PURPOSE:

This subcommittee shall focus its attention on matters pertaining to recreation potential and development in Montana for the purpose of:

1. Serving in a coordinating role by bringing together agencies, groups and organizations which have an interest in the recreational developments in Montana, which would serve local citizens and tourists for the purpose of:
 - a) Identifying and documenting recreation-related problems and opportunities,
 - b) Obtaining a consensus as to priority of need and documenting their findings,
 - c) Developing a plan for implementation of a program deemed appropriate through research, education, legislation or other action.
2. Make recommendations to the State RAD Committee based on these findings.

MEMBERS:

Ron Batchelor, Chairman
Soil Conservation Service
Box 970
Bozeman, MT 59715
587-5271, ext. 3292

Lynne Albright
Convention & Tour Office
Department of Highways
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449-2654

Everett Burlinton
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Capitol Station
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Wes Burnett
Dept. of Fish & Game
Sam W. Mitchell Bldg.
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449-3683

Frank Thompson
Wolf Creek, MT 59648
235-4151

James O. DeBree, Exec. Sec.
Montana Coop. Extension Service
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Bill Smith
Mont. Recreation & Park Assoc.
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William Worf
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Leslie Pederson
Dept. of State Lands
State Capitol
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449-2704

(CONTINUED)

RECREATION SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS:

Donald M. Wood
Wood Forestry Services
125 Glacier Drive
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EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPS.:

Monica Weldon
Blue Creek Route
Billings, MT 59101

Polly Prchal
2204 Dahlia Lane
Billings, MT 59102

Ken Baldwin
529 North Rouse
Bozeman, MT 59715

REMOTE SENSING SUBCOMMITTEE

PURPOSE:

This subcommittee shall focus its attention on matters pertaining to Remote Sensing for the purpose of:

1. Serving in a coordinating role by bringing together agencies, groups and organizations which have an interest in the use, management and development of Remote Sensing for the purpose of:
 - a) Identifying and documenting remote sensing-related problems and opportunities,
 - b) Obtaining a consensus as to priority of need and documenting their findings,
 - c) Developing a plan for implementation of a program deemed appropriate through research, education, legislation or other action.
2. Make recommendations to the State RAD Committee based on these findings.

MEMBERS:

David Armstrong, Chairman
State Dept. of Agriculture
1300 Cedar Street
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Richard Juntunen
Department of State Lands
1625 Eleventh Avenue
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Paul Anderson
MERDI
225 South Idaho
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Marvin Kalland
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Photo Unit
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Richard Munro
Department of the Interior
National Park Service
Glacier National Park
West Glacier, MT 59936

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Fish and Game Research
Department of Fish & Game
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Douglas Johnson
Cascade County Pesticide
Program
521 1st Avenue, NW
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Don Reichmuth
Department of Civil Engineering
MSU, Bozeman, MT 59717

(CONTINUED)

REMOTE SENSING SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS:

Jack Taylor
Dept. of Animal & Range Science
College of Agriculture
MSU, Bozeman, MT 59717

Dale Nerlin
District Director, ASCS
P.O. Box 670
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Bob Symes
Champion Timber
Bonner, MT 59823

Glenn Jacobsen, President
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Don Weidman
Department of Geology
University of Montana
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Fred Batson
BLM, Resources Division
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EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPS.:

Stanley Tryon
P.O. Box 1207
Bozeman, MT 59715

Myron Schober
Farmers Union
P.O. Box 2447
Great Falls, MT 59403

SOILS SUBCOMMITTEE

PURPOSE:

This subcommittee shall focus its attention on matters pertaining to soils (which includes fertilizers, tillage, drainage, saline seep and all phases of soil management) for the purpose of:

1. Serving in a coordinating role by bringing together agencies, groups and organizations which have an interest in soil management for the purpose of:
 - a) Identifying and documenting soil-related problems and opportunities,
 - b) Obtaining a consensus as to priority of need and documenting their findings,
 - c) Developing a plan for implementation of a program deemed appropriate through research, education, legislation or other action.
2. Make recommendations to the State RAD Committee based on these findings.

MEMBERS:

Neil Christensen, Chairman -- Bozeman

Ralph E. Briggs -- Great Falls
Frank Carter -- Missoula
Dr. LeRoy Luft -- Bozeman
Trevor E. Mangold -- Great Falls
Vernon W. Meints -- Bozeman
Glenn Smith -- Helena
Dr. Earl O. Skogley -- Bozeman

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REP.:

Keith Williams -- Billings

WEED SUBCOMMITTEE

PURPOSE:

This subcommittee shall focus its attention on matters pertaining to weed control for the purpose of:

1. Serving in a coordinating role by bringing together agencies, groups and organizations which have an interest in weeds and weed control for the purpose of:
 - a) Identifying and documenting problems and opportunities related to weeds and weed control,
 - b) Obtaining a consensus as to priority of need and documenting their findings,
 - c) Developing a plan for implementation of a program deemed appropriate through research, education, legislation or other action.
2. Make recommendations to the State RAD Committee based on these findings.

MEMBERS:

Douglas Johnson, Chairman
521 1st Avenue, N.W.
Great Falls, MT 59401

Joe Morris
Cascade County Extension Agent
Great Falls, MT 59401

Lawrence Baker
Dept. of Plant & Soil Science
MSU, Bozeman, MT 59717

Dennis Nathe
Redstone, MT 59527

Don Baldridge
Southeastern Agricultural
Experiment Station
Huntley, MT 59037

Robert Story, Sr.
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Robert Thoft
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Jean DeBree
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Fidelity Real Estate
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Tom Burns
Chinook, MT 59523

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPS.:

Mike Jackson
Cooperative Extension Service
MSU, Bozeman, MT 59717

Jack Iman
Victor, MT 59875

Loren Morley
19th Avenue, S.W.
Harlowton, MT 59036

Jim Stephens
Farmers Union
P.O. Box 2447
Great Falls, MT 59403

WILDLIFE SUBCOMMITTEE

PURPOSE:

This subcommittee shall focus its attention on matters pertaining to wildlife (which includes fish, game and nongame species) for the purpose of:

1. Serving in a coordinating role by bringing together agencies, groups and organizations which have an interest in wildlife management and hunter-farmer-rancher relationships for the purpose of:
 - a) Identifying and documenting wildlife-related problems and opportunities,
 - b) Obtaining a consensus as to priority of need and documenting their findings,
 - c) Developing a plan for implementation of a program deemed appropriate through research, education, legislation or other action.
2. Make recommendations to the State RAD Committee based on these findings.

MEMBERS:

Harry McNeal, Chairman
Montana Wildlife Federation
Plant & Soil Science Dept.
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Ron Batchelor, Conservation
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Glen Childers
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James DeBree, Secretary
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Tony Geis
Agricultural Stabilization and
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Box 670
Bozeman, MT 59715

Steve Gilpatrick
Montana Farm Bureau Federation
Hilger, MT 59451

(CONTINUED)

WILDLIFE SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS:

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Department of Natural Resources
Conservation Districts Division
Natural Resources Building
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Steven Knapp
Northern Plains Resource Council
Birney, MT 59012

Ted Lucas
Montana Stockgrowers Association
Highwood, MT 59450

Dick Mackie
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Lewis 301A
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Don McIntosh
Bureau of Land Management
Wildlife Management Biologist
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Burton W. Rounds, Area Manager
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
Federal Building, Room 3035
316 N. 26th Street
Billings, MT 59101

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REP.:

Torlief S. Aasheim
State RAD Committee
517 W. Koch
Bozeman, MT 59715

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS
ASSIGNED TO
RAD SUBCOMMITTEES

Community Development -- Harvey Bryan
Jim DeBree

Farm Safety -- Gerhard Seidler
J. R. Iman

Forestry -- Dick Setterstrom
Bob LeProwse

Livestock -- Bernard Harkness
Burton Brewster
Keith Williams

Range -- Gordon Twedt
Torlief Aasheim

Recreation -- Polly Prchal
Ken Baldwin
Monica Weldon

Remote Sensing -- Myron Schober
Stan Tryon

Soil -- Keith Williams
Riley Childers

Weeds -- Jack Iman
Jim Stephens

Wildlife -- Torlief Aasheim
Barbara Sell

BY-LAWS

Montana Rural Areas Development Committee
Officially Approved, February 14, 1962
And Amended February 21, 1968, February 10, 1972,
December 13, 1974, December 10, 1975 and December 1, 1977

ARTICLE I - NAME

Sec. 1. The name of this Committee shall be the Montana Rural Areas Development Committee.

ARTICLE II - OBJECTIVE

Sec. 1. The chief objective of the Montana RAD Committee is to help develop the human and natural resources of the rural areas of the State to their fullest potential by developing processes among the people for continually solving their problems.

The accomplishment of this objective depends primarily upon the development of leadership, initiative and responsibility among the people of an area for:

- (a) Expansion of their resources, both agricultural and non-agricultural;
- (b) Increased efficiency through use of technology, mechanization and automation;
- (c) Establishment of new and enlargement of existing businesses and industries;
- (d) Training and retraining of youth and adults;
- (e) Reducing of unemployment and under-employment;
- (f) Increased incomes and improved standards of living.

ARTICLE III - DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Sec. 1. The primary functions of this Committee are to establish policies, provide incentives for rural areas development, and give statewide administration and direction to county and area RAD committees.

Sec. 2. Specific functions of the Committee include such activities as:

- (a) Define the geographical boundaries for county and area RAD activities with help of local people;
- (b) Consulting with government and other agencies on all phases of state and local area responsibilities for the successful operation of the RAD program;
- (c) Review and make recommendations for improvement of area RAD and area redevelopment program and plans;
- (d) Establish and maintain appropriate liaison with state economic development agencies and groups, including ARA, with respect to the RAD program;
- (e) Create among the people an awareness of the value and accomplishments of RAD;
- (f) Evaluation of its own operation and area program effectiveness.

ARTICLE IV - MEMBERSHIP

Sec. 1. The State RAD Committee shall be composed of representatives from different areas of the state, economic and other segments of the society, including agriculture, business, industry, labor, church, schools, civic groups, state public agencies and organizations, and the Director of the Cooperative Extension Service.

Sec. 2. All vacancies shall be filled and new appointments made by the Executive Committee.

(THE FOLLOWING Sec. 3 IS AN AMENDMENT VOTED UPON AND APPROVED AT THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE STATE RAD COMMITTEE, DECEMBER 10-11, 1975, IN BOZEMAN.)

Sec. 3. The Annual Dues for membership of the Montana State RAD Committee shall be \$5.00. The payment of such dues shall entitle the member to receive all minutes, notices of meetings, and proceedings of the State RAD Committee, and shall entitle the member to vote at all meetings of the State Committee, and shall entitle the member to be considered for membership on the Executive Committee.

Life Membership Dues shall be \$50.00 and shall entitle the individual to all rights and privileges of individuals described under Annual Membership Dues.

Any member wishing to give special support to the State RAD Committee may do so by making a payment of \$100.00 which shall entitle him to Life Membership and a certificate identifying him as a Sustaining Member.

Organizations, agencies, business enterprises or groups of any kind wishing to support the RAD activities may do so and be identified as Associate Members by payment of a minimum of annual \$25.00 dues. This entitles such members to all rights of other members except the right to vote. A certificate identifying the donor as an Associate Member will be issued.

ARTICLE V - EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

- Sec. 1. At the organization meeting, the Montana RAD Committee shall elect an Executive Committee of ten members, plus a non-voting executive secretary, five of whom shall be elected for one year and five for two years. Thereafter, all members shall be elected for two years. All members of the Executive Committee shall continue in office until successors have been duly elected and qualified.

(CHANGED FROM EIGHT TO TEN MEMBERS BY AMENDMENT AT THE ANNUAL MEETING HELD IN SIDNEY, MONTANA, ON FEBRUARY 10, 1972.)

"In addition to the ten elected members, the Director of the Montana Cooperative Extension Service shall serve as a member of the Executive Committee with all the rights and privileges given the other members."

(THE DIRECTOR OF THE MONTANA COOPERATIVE EXTENSION SERVICE WAS ADDED AS A MEMBER OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE BY ACTION TAKEN AT THE ANNUAL MEETING HELD IN BILLINGS ON DEC. 1 & 2, 1977.)

- Sec. 2. The Executive Committee will select one of its members to serve as its chairman and chairman of the Montana RAD Committee. It will also select one of its members to serve as a vice-chairman who will act in the absence of the chairman.

- Sec. 3. The Executive Secretary, who will serve as secretary of the RAD Executive Committee and the Montana RAD Committee, will be employed by the Montana Cooperative Extension Service.

- Sec. 4. Five members of the Executive Committee shall constitute a quorum for transacting official business.

(CHANGED FROM FOUR TO FIVE BY AMENDMENT AT THE ANNUAL MEETING HELD IN SIDNEY, MONTANA, ON FEBRUARY 10, 1972.)

- Sec. 5. When a vacancy occurs in the Executive Committee by reason of death or resignation, the Executive Committee shall fill the unexpired term.

- Sec. 6. The Executive Committee shall have the power to appoint such subcommittees as are deemed necessary.
- Sec. 7. The Executive Committee shall assume the responsibility for implementing the work and conducting the business of the RAD Committee.
- Sec. 8. All activities of the Executive Committee, especially those pertaining to policy, shall be reported periodically to the entire membership of the Montana RAD Committee.

(THE FOLLOWING TWO ITEMS ARE AMENDMENTS VOTED UPON AND APPROVED AT THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE STATE RAD COMMITTEE, FEBRUARY 20 & 21, 1968, IN BOZEMAN.)

- Sec. 9. Each member of the RAD Executive Committee shall name an alternate to represent him or her at meetings which he or she cannot attend. This alternate shall be named on a permanent basis and may attend meetings which the regular member attends, but may vote only when the regular member is absent.
- Sec. 10. If an elected position of the RAD Executive Committee is not represented by the elected member or designated alternate in three consecutive meetings, the position shall be declared vacant.

(SECTION 10 REWORDED FOR CLARIFICATION AND APPROVED AT THE ANNUAL RAD MEETING HELD IN BILLINGS, MONTANA ON DEC. 1 & 2, 1977.)

ARTICLE VI - ELECTIONS

- Sec. 1. The annual meeting, at which time the vacancies in the RAD Executive Committee shall be filled, will be held within the first two weeks of December at a place designated by the Executive Committee.

(CHANGED FROM THE SECOND WEDNESDAY IN FEBRUARY AT A PLACE DESIGNATED BY THE CHAIRMAN TO WITHIN THE FIRST TWO WEEKS OF DECEMBER AT A PLACE DESIGNATED BY THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE BY AMENDMENT AT THE ANNUAL MEETING IN MILES CITY, MONTANA, ON DECEMBER 13, 1974.)

- Sec. 2. The Executive Committee shall appoint annually three persons from among the membership of the Montana RAD Committee to serve as a committee to nominate candidates for membership and officers of the Executive Committee, and to conduct the election to be held at the annual meeting.

Sec. 3. Additional nominations for the Executive Committee may be made from the floor by any member of the RAD Committee before the election is held.

Sec. 4. Election should be by ballot.

ARTICLE VII - MEETINGS

Sec. 1. The Montana RAD Committee shall meet at least once a year and at other times at the discretion of the Executive Committee. The announcement of the meetings together with a statement of the purpose of the meeting shall be mailed to each member at least seven days prior to the meeting.

Sec. 2. Those personally present at a duly called meeting of the Montana RAD Committee shall constitute a quorum.

ARTICLE VIII - CHANGES IN BY-LAWS

Sec. 1. The Executive Committee or any member of the Montana RAD Committee may recommend additions or amendments to the by-laws.

Sec. 2. Additions or amendments to the by-laws shall become effective immediately upon approval of a majority of the State RAD Committee members present at any scheduled meeting.

Sec. 3. Proposed additions and amendments to these by-laws shall be submitted to the members at least fourteen days prior to the meeting at which action on the additions and amendments is to be taken.

(THE FOLLOWING ARTICLE IX, SEC. 1. WAS APPROVED AT THE ANNUAL MEETING HELD IN BILLINGS, MONTANA, ON DECEMBER 1 & 2, 1977.)

ARTICLE IX - REPORTS

Sec. 1. The chairman, with the aid of the secretary, shall be responsible for the preparation of an annual report covering activities and actions taken during the year. This report shall be prepared and distributed prior to March 1st of the following year and shall include an updated listing of members and subcommittees.

ANNUAL REPORT

The Montana State Rural Areas Development Committee met five times during 1977. Meetings were held on February 2nd in Helena, on April 11th & 12th in Bozeman, on July 12th & 13th in Bozeman, on September 13th & 14th in Bozeman and the Annual meeting was held in Billings on December 1st & 2nd.

This report contains a listing of membership and subcommittee memberships as of March 1st. A copy of the By-Laws as amended at the Annual meeting is also included.

This is the first Annual Report prepared by the State Rural Areas Development Committee and will be structured in an informal manner so as to convey what transpired in the committee's meetings and briefly mention actions taken.

The first major activity in 1977 was to contact all members of the Montana House and Senate Committees on Finance and Claims with regard to matters requiring legislative action which were supported by the Montana State Rural Areas Development Committee. A copy of the letter prepared and sent is included as "Item 1" in the Appendix. Three of the seven items for which support was requested were funded. These were: (1) a dairy specialist position in the Cooperative Extension Service, (2) the Kellogg Extension Education program, and (3) a position with the Economic Development Association of Eastern Montana. Another request was made to the legislature requesting that the Bobcat be added to the State Fur Bearer list. This request was granted and the Bobcat is now classified as a furbearer.

At the 1976 Annual meeting which was held in Lewistown on December 9th & 10th the Committee made a recommendation of an individual to succeed Carl McIntosh as President of Montana State University. A copy of this letter of recommendation which was written to members of the Selection Committee is included as "Item 2" of the Appendix.

Recommendations of the Forestry Subcommittee with regard to the operation of the State Forest Tree Nursery were supported by the Executive Committee. The recommendations made by the Forestry Subcommittee are to be found in Appendix 3, and a letter pertaining to the support of the Executive Committee is included in Appendix 4.

Upon recommendation of the Wildlife Subcommittee a letter supporting an extension of the "Sikes Act" was written to the Montana Congressional Delegation. A copy of this letter will be found in the Appendix 5.

At the regular meeting held in Helena on February 2nd it was agreed that prior to the next meeting on April 12th, an evening meeting be held on April 11th to review RAD activities and discuss future objectives of the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee did meet at the Holiday Inn in Bozeman on April 11th. The matter of getting greater participation from subcommittees was discussed at some length. The relationship between RAD and the Cooperative Extension Service was questioned and Keith Williams was delegated to visit with Director Carl Hoffman and ask him to come to our next meeting to discuss this matter in some depth and at some length.

Sources of funding for RAD were explored and the possibility of a part-time secretary being employed was discussed.

The need was expressed for an effective process that identifies priorities as they relate to opportunities and problems which exist in the state. Subcommittees have generally seemed rather reluctant to identify priorities and agencies generally seem reluctant to do this also. The need for an updated "State Situation Statement" was mentioned.

The involvement of other groups in the activities of RAD came up for discussion. A suggestion was made that RAD take stronger stands on controversial matters. A comment was made that membership on the RAD Executive Committee should automatically include certain individuals such as presidents of all farm organizations.

The regular meeting on April 12th included items pertaining to (1) legislative action taken on RAD recommendations, (2) the need for educational programs pertaining to land use, (3) taxation alternatives on private forest lands, (4) priorities established by the Economic Development Assn. of Eastern Montana, (5) the establishment of a Remote Sensing Subcommittee, and (6) an updated Montana Situation Statement.

At the request of the RAD Range Subcommittee it was agreed to re-establish "The Range Man of the Year" award. This award has been given in 1974 and 1975 but was not given in 1976 due to a lack of follow-up on the matter that year. A statement on the background of this award and the Range Subcommittee is given in Appendix 6.

On July 12th (the evening prior to the regular meeting on July 13th) the Executive Committee met at the Holiday Inn in Bozeman. A major portion of this meeting was spent discussing relationships between RAD and the Montana Cooperative Extension Service. Extension Director, Carl Hoffman, was present. Dr. Hoffman reviewed the history of involving lay people in other states. He expressed his desire to keep the Montana RAD Committee active and operating so that they may have a group to work with

representing agriculture and the rural areas. He pointed out ideas that have led to activity by the RAD Committee, originating from within the Committee and from outside the Committee. The State RAD Committee has operated to extend the programs and make them successful. He reviewed the work of various committees and used an example of the Soil Fertility Committee which has done much work with the Soil Fertility Program. He stressed the need for change in this Committee if these people are going to continue to function. He said one of the areas that a Subcommittee or Executive Committee could perform was to ask the right questions of established groups or committees so they would get a shot in the arm or renewed vigor.

The use of a task force approach was discussed rather than using subcommittees to handle the various problems.

Following Carl Hoffman's presentation, the Executive Committee members expressed their desire to continue their relationship with the Extension Service and to make it more a part of the total operation. They recognized in certain areas subcommittees have been effective and much work has been accomplished. The Committee reviewed the subcommittee functions as set forth by the By-Laws of the organization.

Charles Rust reviewed the make-up of many of our subcommittees and the functions for which they were established. He specifically cited the role of the Soil, Range and Weed Committees as three committees that have done a good job and need new leadership if we are going to get the programs under way again. The question was raised "How do Extension people get other folks involved in solving the problems in the various fields?" It was suggested the Committees be changed to task forces and this was discussed with no specific action taken.

The questions were asked as to whether or not we make an addition to the Executive Committee, and whether the positions on the Executive Committee should be by virtue of position in a commodity or farm organization or representing various groups. This was later resolved to go before our Executive Committee at a later time. There are pros and cons to the Executive Committee membership being from specific organizations and from the State at large. Also there was a question raised about whether there was money that could be used for the task force committees. The question was raised that evening "What is RAD and why are we involved?"

A motion was made by Keith Williams, seconded by Stanley Tryon, that a report of the July 12th Executive Committee be made to the full Executive Committee meeting on July 13th, 1977, and that an item be placed on the next regular Executive Committee for an enlargement of the Committee and that we discuss the representation by organizations or by virtue of office in the selection of the Executive Committee in the years ahead. This motion carried.

The question was raised whether the State RAD Committee testified before the legislature. Someone asked whether or not the RAD Committee as an organization actually testified or whether the position of the RAD Committee was presented by various subcommittee chairmen or other representatives. The group felt that the RAD Committee had indeed testified and that various people were designated to speak for the organization.

The regular meeting on July 13th contained the following Agenda items: (1) a review of the legislatures action on matters supported by RAD; (2) discussion of a letter from the Montana Outfitters in which they indicated a desire to withdraw from the Wildlife Subcommittee because there was no funding for travel and they were not in agreement with some action taken by RAD; (3) discussion of subcommittee effectiveness; (4) restructuring the Executive Committee to include more people; (5) the need for a Remote Sensing Subcommittee was discussed and action taken to form such a subcommittee; (6) Cooperative Livestock Enterprise with facilities at Great Falls; (7) the future of K.E.E.P. -- funding and space problems; (8) planning in Rosebud County; (9) a presentation by Gordon McOmber on the functions of the Montana Department of Agriculture; (10) a discussion of the fact that neither Clyde Jarvis, nor his alternate had been in attendance for three consecutive meetings. Action was taken to declare that position on the Executive Committee vacant. Jim Stephens, President of the Montana Farmers Union was appointed to fill the vacancy; (11) Land use problems and opportunities -- the State U.S.D.A. Committee for Rural Development had asked the State R.A.D. Committee to consider using land use as a major topic at their Annual meeting for the purpose of testing the general attitude and receptiveness of Montana people regarding educational programs pertaining to land use. Some concern was expressed that land use planning was still too emotional an issue to have a successful educational effort. The decision as to whether or not R.A.D. would use this as a major topic at their Annual meeting was deferred until the next meeting.

The Executive Committee again had a meeting on the evening of September 13th which preceeded the regular meeting on September 14th. The major item for discussion at this meeting related to membership on the Executive Committee. Many suggestions and ideas were expressed which resulted in recommendations to be made to the regular meeting the next day, September 14th.

The Agenda items and some actions taken at the September 14th meeting were:

- (1) Planning the Agenda for the Annual meeting. It was agreed to use Land Use Planning as a major topic for discussion at the Annual meeting. Details of the

Annual meeting activities and program are included in the minutes of the Annual meeting which are a part of this report.

- (2) Discussion of By-Law changes -- The changes in the By-Laws which were drafted on the evening of the 13th were presented and approved for presentation at the Annual meeting for final action. The By-Law changes which were recommended are included in Appendix 7.
- (3) Current programs of the Department of Plant and Soil Science at M.S.U. -- Dr. Kurt Feltner, head of the Department made this presentation. In response to a question regarding the need for a subcommittee relating to crops and soils, he responded that the Department had many Advisory Councils now and he could see no need for such a committee.
- (4) The role of the Department of Natural Resources and Conservation was discussed by John Orth, Director of the Department.
- (5) The future role of Montana State University was the subject of a presentation made by President William Tietz.

The Annual meeting was held in Billings, Montana, on December 1st & 2nd, 1977, and the program and activities which took place at the meeting are covered in detail in the minutes of the meeting.

MONTANA STATE RURAL AREAS DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

EXTENSION BUILDING MONTANA STATE UNIVERSITY BOZEMAN, MONTANA

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Torlief S. Aasheim
Ext. Director, Emeritus
Bozeman, Montana

Bob LeProwse, V. Chm.
U. S. Plywood
Missoula, Montana

Bernard Harkness, Pres.
Montana Farm Bureau Fed.
Dell, Montana

Jim Stephens, Pres.
Montana Farmers Union
Great Falls, Montana

Jack Iman, Pres.
Montana State Grange
Victor, Montana

Harvey Bryan
Businessman
Wolf Point, Montana

Keith Williams
Montana Power Co.
Billings, Montana

Dick Setterstrom
Rancher
Butte, Montana

Carl Hoffman
Vice Pres. for Ext.
Montana State University
Bozeman, Montana

Polly Prchal
Former City Council Member
Billings, Montana

Gordon Twedt
Farmer & Businessman
Great Falls, Montana

Jim DeBree, Sec.
Montana Coop. Ext. Serv.
Montana State University
Bozeman, Montana

MINUTES OF THE MONTANA STATE RURAL AREAS DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

17th Annual Meeting

Billings, Montana

December 1 & 2, 1977

The Executive Committee met on the evening of November 30th.

Those in attendance included Torlief Aasheim, Jack Iman, Polly Prchal, Burton Brewster, Harvey Bryan, Myron Schober, Dave Armstrong, Jane Barry, Barbara Sell, Keith Williams, Dick Setterstrom, Bob LeProwse, Ray Karr and Secretary, Jim DeBree.

Torlief introduced the members and guests and asked for additional items for the Agenda. The Committee then addressed the proposed Constitution and By-Laws. There is concern over becoming a closed organization if specific groups are elected to the Executive Committee. Most of the Committee felt that the elections of individuals should prevail rather than to nail it down by organization. A substitute motion from Dick Setterstrom: We should maintain the Executive Committee at 10 elected members, plus the addition of the Vice President for Extension as a voting ex-officio member. Seconded by Keith Williams and passed.

Some discussion related to the Governor's Range Advisory Committee. John Vanisko from Deer Lodge will be making a report during the regular meeting. However, it was decided that the Chairman will visit with this Committee to see if they are willing to work with RAD.

USDA Reorganization

Ray Karr mentioned that President Carter has requested all agencies of the Federal government to evaluate their structure and consider options for reorganization that would make Federal agencies more efficient in providing services for people. USDA is currently investigating various options for reorganization and will be discussed in greater detail at the February meeting.

Wetlands and Rare II Lands

Current efforts are underway in Montana to document wetlands that exist throughout the state, plus rare II lands that may be included in wilderness areas. These two topics will be considered at a later meeting.

Resource Conservation and Development Projects (RC & D's) in Montana are suffering from funding restrictions in support of personnel assigned to assist local projects. The feeling exists at the Federal level that RC & D Projects will be funded for a 10-year period, then local government and organizations need to step in and fund the Project from local sources.

Jane Barry, representing the Montana Association of Nurserymen, indicated that the Woodland Council's Special Task Force is making progress for developing joint programs with the State Forestry in Missoula.

Harvey Bryan pointed out a current problem adversely affecting Montana relating to beef imports; it appears to be a problem in Japan with the quotas on beef entering their country. In addition, there is a high tariff on imported processed meat that is also affecting the livestock industry. The question was asked if RAD could be of any assistance in investigating this matter. It was felt that this would be a good topic for the Livestock Subcommittee and perhaps can be discussed at a later meeting.

The evening session was then adjourned.

On December 1st, the Annual meeting was called to order by Chairman, Torlief Aasheim. After introductions, announcements and review of the program, Secretary DeBree gave the highlights of the minutes of the previous meeting. The financial report was also presented by Torlief and is attached.

The proposed amendments to the By-Laws were approved by the members with the following exception. Dick Setterstrom presented a substitute motion that the Executive Committee maintain 10 elected members, plus the addition of the Vice President for Extension as a voting ex-officio member. Seconded by Polly Prchal and carried. Ole Ueland indicated there was considerable enthusiasm among candidates for the Executive Committee. He felt it would be in the best interests of RAD to expand the Executive Committee to 15 and not have farm organizations named as such. Setterstrom pointed out that the alternates should really get involved and participate in the Executive Committee. There was an excellent discussion on the pro's and con's on the expansion of the Executive Committee. There are no new members on the Committee for the first five names on the ballot were elected.

Results of the elections indicated that current directors were re-elected: Bob LeProwse, Polly Prchal, Gordon Twedt, Bernard Harkness and Jim Stephens. It was suggested that different procedures be investigated for another year that might include a list of candidates be sent out ahead of the Annual meeting.

Continued discussion on the role and functions of RAD prevailed with ideas including name change and more visibility.

Eldon Rice from Forsyth mentioned that TRYAC had been very active as a local, county organization designed to improve the social and economic development of their conditions. TRYAC no longer exists for they decided at their annual meeting this year to close up shop.

During the break the Executive Committee held their elections with Torlief Aasheim being re-elected as Chairman, Bob LeProwse, as Vice-Chairman and Jim DeBree as Secretary.

Subcommittee Reports

Bob LeProwse, chairing the morning session introduced the first subcommittee report.

Wildlife Subcommittee - Harry McNeal

Harry McNeal indicated his subcommittee met 4 times in 1977. Highlights of their efforts of this past year indicated supporting the Bobcat on the fur-bearing list, an Extension Wildlife Specialist and landowner/sportsman relations, which is one of their top priorities. Their committee feels the Fish & Game needs to improve their image throughout the state. However, this is a very sticky and complex problem. Harry referred to a paper that was developed by Verne House, Public Affairs Specialist for Extension, on how much value can be placed on fish and wildlife, which is extremely difficult to access; however, an area that needs to be further investigated.

Early man was not necessarily a good conservationist. Reference to the Nile Valley where there is 50 inches of top soil per year in this flood plane, due primarily to poor land use management in the water shed. History of the U.S. is similar to that of Egypt. Some resources are being tested to the limit while history should be reaching us a lesson.

Their subcommittee is investigating ways to improve the wildlife habitat and harvest because the future of hunting rests on the shoulder of the sportsman.

During the discussion, Harry pointed out that the outfitters elected to bow-out of the subcommittee where they could not accept agency representation. One major problem in Montana indicates about 20% of Montanan's actually fish and hunt, so it is a minority problem and needs to be investigated by this group. A complete copy of Harry's report is attached.

Soils Subcommittee - Neil Christensen

Neil gave a brief overview of the increased emphasis on research and education in Montana through the tax tonage on fertilizer. In 1976, there were 284,000 tons sold, which was a 67 increase over previous years. The demand in 1977 was stronger in the first six months, however, there was a lot of uncertainty due to the weather conditions and price of Ag. commodities. During the year '76-'77, the experiment station and Extension each received \$42,845 from the tax tonage. Major efforts indicated by Neil reflect: 1) Statewide studies on nitrogen fertilizer products,

including urea that would help to increase profits to the producer, 2) the placement of fertilizer with seed on small grains and 3) large-scale grazing trials using fertilizer on native ranges.

Another area where Extension and experiment station people are becoming involved is related to land use planning. Paul Kresge, Extension Soil Specialist, just returned from the Sweet Grass hills where there is interest in sub-division. He indicated Extension field staff are getting numerous requests on land use issues and are in great need of support in responding to land use needs of communities throughout the state. A program recently established by Paul relates to a Resource Inventory Handbook. This handbook can be used by local planning boards, resource committees as a first and most important step in developing inventories for comprehensive land use plans. Title I funds have been obtained that will allow Extension to conduct statewide educational programs. This is designed for lay groups and has tremendous potential in helping local communities develop their own plans.

Land Use Opinionnaire

Rex Campbell was then introduced who conducted an opinionnaire on land use issues. This will be tabulated and used later in the program.

Luncheon Speaker

The luncheon speaker was Dr. Charles Rust, Extension Service Program Coordinator for Agriculture and Natural Resources. The title of his talk was Land Management and the New Farm Bill. Rust pointed out that the 1977 Food and Agricultural Act was signed into law by the President of the U.S. on September 29, 1977. The basic purpose of this act is to provide price and income protection for farmers and assure consumers of an abundance of food and fiber at reasonable prices. See attachment.

The afternoon session got underway with Dick Setterstrom sharing the following subcommittee reports:

Weed Subcommittee - Doug Johnson

The major concern of their subcommittee has been Senate Bill 315, which was killed in the Senate during the last legislative session. Laws that are now written cannot be enforced. Therefore, their subcommittee is investigating new laws that will help to improve Weed Control Programs throughout the state. They feel the need to work with other subcommittees that relate to weeds to gain their support and input that will help develop stronger programs. He also pointed out that House Bill 122 dealing with improving local government, allows Weed Boards, but as an option as part of a Pest Board. This arrangement may not be as functional as the current system. They're also investigating Senate Bill 239 which helps to attract Federal funds for

management of noxious weeds on Federal lands. They are investigating ways to improve Weed Control Programs on public lands throughout Montana and are working with land management agencies. The Weed Subcommittee has developed two major goals this coming year: 1) to help establish Weed Control Programs on Federal lands and 2) unify local and state efforts for a better Weed Control Program in all counties. They would also like to expand on biological research in Montana where we are currently spending \$16,000. There is also a problem of perennial weeds on non-productive lands and they hope to meet at least three times a year in 1978 in their continued efforts to improve programs for local counties.

Livestock Subcommittee - Rodger Brownson

Rodger indicated that the livestock feeder is perhaps the best off in the livestock industry, although certainly not profitable at the current time. Investigations have been made for feeding wheat. Two-dollar wheat seems to be equivalent to one and one-half dollar corn or barley. The subcommittee is currently investigating the Farm Bill and is concerned about the grazing on set-aside acres. Other topics covered by the subcommittee included investigation for an Extension Veterinarian. Dr. Carl Hoffman, Vice President for Extension, pointed out that this failed at the last legislative session because the support groups backed off during the session and the position was not funded. The Montana Livestock Cooperative is proceeding nicely. They are currently selling kill rights and visiting with Ag. lenders throughout the state to generate support for the facility in Great Falls. The subcommittee also reported that a grant of \$250,000 was obtained from the Old West Regional Commission for conducting research on the Weak Calf Syndrome. This effort is being coordinated by Dr. Jack Ward of Hamilton and research staff of the University of Montana.

The Cooperative Extension Service recently initiated a computerized problem-solving program entitled "Agnnet" and there are several in the system that relate to livestock operators. The subcommittee is still concerned about Canadian constraints on Montana exports and the artificial barriers that allow Canadian livestock products into this country, however, it is not reciprocal due to their health requirements. Major efforts will expend this year in investigating support for an Extension Veterinarian. (Attachment for Livestock Subcommittee Report)

Range Subcommittee - John Vanisko

There is a very strong Range Program in Montana but there is still a great need to coordinate individual efforts for a total management program throughout the state. Policies currently investigated by the subcommittee include developing grass root support from ranchers, initiating a newsletter, and investigating saline seep problems as it relates to range management. There are lots of activities going on. Most recently is the appointment of a Governor's Range Advisory Committee, chaired by Harold Simms of Sunburst.

The subcommittee includes Dennis Nathe of Redstone; Pete Jackson, of Helena; Bill Wegner, Warden; John Hollenbeck, Goldcreek; Dick Cruff of Fort Benton. In addition to ranchers on the subcommittee other members include Alice Fryslie, Montana Cattleman's Association; Ted Russell of the Forest Service; Charles Greene, Farmer's Home Administration; Joe Zacek, SCS, Bozeman; Tony Geis, ASCS; Carol Womboldt, CES; Willie Milliron, Glendive, Society of Range Management; John Morris, Montana Stockgrowers; Bob Gilbert, Montana Wool Growers; Lee Eddleman, University of Montana, Forestry Department; Charles Reid, Bureau of Indian Affairs; Blake Smith, Fish and Wildlife; Dick Cleveland, Bureau of Land Management; Richard Mackie, Fish and Game; Jim Richards, Department of Community Affairs, Helena; William Erbe, State Lands, Helena and Vince Frezo, Department of Natural Resources, Helena. (See attachment for the complete Range Subcommittee Report.)

Forestry Subcommittee - Don Wood

Montana Woodland Council serving as the Forestry Subcommittee of RAD discussed five major issues in 1977: 1) Forest taxation, 2) Urban/community forestry, 3) Wildlife habitat improvement, 4) Impacts of public forest land decisions upon the private sector and 5) Best management practices. In addition, the Forestry Subcommittee would like to present specific recommendations related to the State Forest Tree Nursery located at Missoula, Montana. In addition to their recommendations on the operation of this program, the Woodland Council requests support from RAD for the Western States Forestry Task Force. (See attachments.)

Farm Safety - Roy Linn

Major efforts of the Farm Safety Subcommittee this past year have been in the areas of: 1) Farm safety on the highways with respect to moving agricultural implements, 2) Fire sense in the home, smoke and heat detectors and fire protection in rural areas, 3) Pesticide safety and 4) Caution on moving agricultural equipment around power lines. The subcommittee developed several publications through Extension and have several sets of slides that can be used in educational programs. Extension is also providing additional training materials for various audiences in the state.- one 15-minute program dealing with accidents and machinery and a second 15-minute program dealing with safety as it relates to life styles. (See attachment for the complete report.)

Remote Sensing Subcommittee

Dave Armstrong, State Department of Agriculture, discussed the Remote Sensing Subcommittee in some detail. In addition to his published report, Dave mentioned that many agencies have aerial imagery of one kind or another and there are possibilities of expanding Remote Sensing Programs, including colored infrared that would provide accurate data on vegetative species, including weeds, irrigated crops, range, habitat, plus a host of others. NASA products are available and there is increased emphasis at the Federal level in developing more products so they can be available to consumers.

It appears that the photo unit in the Department of Highways may be the best source for coordinating individual land management agency efforts. Tom Dundas of the Department of Community Affairs has been working with the Eros Center at Sioux Falls, South Dakota to develop a cardigraph computer in Montana. They will be developing film product packets to determine the most feasible products. The Forest Service Region I Photo Service will be moving to Salt Lake City; therefore, this office will be difficult to work with in future programs.

USDA Reorganization

Ray Karr, Forest Service, pointed out that the Natural Resources and Environment Study is an internal group of employees to investigate reorganization of USDA. The next phase of this study will be the public input and RAD can contact the Chairman, if interested. The study is on schedule with recommendations going to the President after public input before final recommendations are made. Decisions will be made in April concerning any reorganization that may take affect. Secretary DeBree was instructed to obtain copies of this study for review by the Executive Committee at their February meeting.

Evening Program

The evening program included a banquet and key note speaker, Howard Porter, addressing "People Use Management". Mr. Porter discussed some key principles of communication that are important in dealing with people. Leadership requires attentive listening, including the eye in order to get the true meaning of the inner-personal communication. We communicate using the whole body and it's very important that you watch your words in identifying specific problems in articulating solutions. He cautioned the audience to be aware of cynics and we need to grow up before we grow old, which is not often the case. His comments were very well received by the audience.

Special awards were presented to individuals involved with RAD. Judd Walker was presented an award for his dedication and involvement in RAD from the time it was initially conceived. Range awards were presented to Bob Ross, retired State Range Conservationist with SCS, and the Range Man of the Year, Mr. Willy Milliron of Glendive.

Land Use Issues

The Friday morning session got underway with Jack Iman presiding. He introduced Verne House, who discussed the points for the day's program. Verne gave an excellent overview of the history of land management issues in this country. (See attachment) The key word of land management is evolve as it relates to land use issues. In 1971 large-scale developments took place in this country, particularly in the second home and recreational areas. Also, developments as a hedge against inflation, plus a shift in population. These large-scale developments precepted legislation in an effort to combat fraud that was creeping in. 1973 highlights included

Watergate, grain sales, short supply with considerable concern generated over food stocks. We were suffering from a sluggish economy and prime land became news in almost every community throughout the country. A great many states passed laws for green belt legislation attempting to protect this resource. In 1978, we find that we have survived the shortages of toilet paper, anti-freeze, land markets are beginning to come back with environmental impact assessments taking considerable time and effort. We are now in the era of the Resource Planning Act as land management agencies are planning natural resources to the best of their abilities. These issues do evolve over a period of time, running hot and cold, according to the economy, supply and demand of products, and the value system of local communities.

Opinionnaire

The Land Use Opinionnaire was then summarized by Rex Campbell, showing the response by the audience to such topics as general philosophy of land use, growth, public responsibility, public influence, zoning, effectiveness of land use planning and green belt legislation. (See attachment for detailed report.)

Costs of Municipal Services

Secretary Jim DeBree showed a 15-minute slide-tape program entitled "Impacts of Residential Growth on Municipal Costs and Services". This program illustrated the cost of providing municipal services that were documented in a town of approximately 12,000 in Western Oregon.

Land Use Planning

Jack Iman introduced Lt. Governor Ted Schwinden, who spoke on land use laws, regulations and responsibilities. The Lt. Governor pointed out that the key to Montana's future is the way in which we use our resources, (land, air and water) for the choices will certainly affect the future of every member of this state. We must recognize that agriculture is the main stay and as long as we maintain our economic base, we are in a position to provide the kind of environment that is compatible to our community lifestyles. There are some conflicts arising in the way we use these resources, as an example, minerals under agricultural land, industries competing for limited water supplies, recreational use, second homes, water impoundments, etc. Every choice for using these resources is valid; however, we must get together in order to make the very best decisions we possibly can. Thirty percent of our real estate is managed by the Federal government, 6% on reservations and the remaining in the private sector. There is considerable subdivision activity going on in various parts of the state and we must work towards making optimum decisions concerning land use problems. Land use decisions will be made outside the state, and if we fail to act, the consequences may well be severe, for it appears that full blown agriculture and full-scale mining are incompatible in some areas. There is a big difference between planning and regulations and hopefully local communities will become more involved in planning to prevent abuse of natural resources.

Montanan's enjoy a high quality livability, therefore, it is imperative that we investigate long range goals. (See attachment.)

Land Use Policies, Alternatives and Implications

Following coffee break, Polly Prchal introduced A. B. Linford, former State Conservationist with SCS. Linford pointed out that the questions are more social than they are technical and concerns expressed reflect a magnitude of fundamental dangers regarding food, minerals and contamination of our environment. We appear to be living with a population time bomb. Major responsibility for policy making lies within the legislative branch. According to the evidence, it appears that the national trend has been piecemeal land use legislation, rather than total land use policies. Here in Montana, almost every agency has some land use responsibility of one kind or another. This leads to often times fragmented approaches to problem solving, however, there is a general concern over loss of agricultural land that's been documented at roughly 2% per year. The market system establishes use, therefore, the highest bidder with the most intensive use, is usually reinforced by the current tax structure, this system usually determines the way growth occurs. There are roll back options on tax laws but it is not enough to reduce conversion to other uses. Zoning appears to be most effective in urbanizing area. In 1972, the Association of Conservation Districts in Montana developed a major land use policy that was submitted to the legislature but was defeated. Current efforts appear to be moving from volunteer regulation to mandated regulation relating to utilization of land use resources. The criteria that needs to be considered in developing sound policies include: 1) Research, requiring quality, 2) forecasting future needs, especially for food and fiber, 3) Consideration of the inherent right of landowners recognizing stewardship, 4) the tax system that's in place, 5) Changes in land use after careful study, 6) the balance between public and private use, and 7) the involvement and participation of community citizens.

Noon Luncheon

Jim Stephens presiding, introduced Harold Fryslye, director of the State Department of Community Affairs. Harold's comments reflected the Department's position on land use planning. The subdivision review reflects trends in Montana communities whereby the efforts to reduce or slow down subdivisions through the ten acre and 20 acre law backlashed for subdivisions are just getting larger. Harold indicated that growth plans for many communities are at crossroads and there is great need for coordination and development of overall programs by local government. State legislation has not been that effective in dealing with land use issues for one can find a good many failures in local communities in their efforts to resolve land use conflicts. The Montana Economic Land Development Act that is supposed to be administered by the Department of Community Affairs and the Department of Revenue has been absolutely ineffective in addressing land use problems.

There are currently 50 city/county planning boards and about 27 city planning boards attempting to develop comprehensive land use plans, however, it is very difficult to work with these communities on a piecemeal basis.

Water Quality Programs

The afternoon session got underway with Keith Williams, presiding, who introduced members of a panel to discuss the 208 Water Quality Program in Montana. Keith made a few comments by reviewing issues associated with water since our Indian reservation treaties were established.

The first member of the panel was Allen Bond, Project Director with the Mid-Yellowstone A.P.O., who defined 208 as an effort to improve water quality throughout our nation. Allen mentioned definitions of 208 expressed by some people was a take over of the state's water by the Fed's or the Federal government's back door approach to land use planning or a diversion for the Panama Canal Treaty, the point being a lot of misunderstanding concerning the 208 Water Quality Program. 208 is a section of Public Law 92-500 entitled "The Federal Water Pollution Control Act". Water pollution problems that are evident in our nation require attention at all levels of government to control pollution at the source. Local programs should be initiated involving local people through the hearing process addressing the needs of agriculture and other non-point pollution sources. There are two major types of pollution, that being point and non-point. The essential portion of the 208 Program in the Mid-Yellowstone A.P.O. is to develop the best management practices and deal with non-point pollution. One method of attaining this goal is through ordinances similar to what the Lewis and Clark Conservation District achieved through the establishment of water quality districts. Perhaps another option might be local ordinances as models for volunteer programs. The Mid-Yellowstone A.P.O. has developed a coordinated effort with local government and state agencies and have obtained a handle on water quality problems. The Environmental Protection Agency's best management practices leave a lot to be desired at the local level. Therefore, the Mid-Yellowstone A.P.O. developed their own practices by examining current conservation practices existing within Conservation Districts. These practices are well established and were used as building blocks for best management practices as required by E.P.A. It appears that all land managers will have to live with B.M.P.'s, therefore, it's important that educational programs be initiated. If Conservation Districts do become involved in managing the program, it should reflect grass roots support for reducing non-point pollution.

Jim Yedlicka, farmer/rancher and Supervisor with the Carbon County Conservation District, pointed out that the public does in fact recognize water pollution. Siltation has been well documented in our streams, therefore, it was natural for the Conservation Districts in all five counties of the Mid-Yellowstone A.P.O. to become involved in an effort to reduce erosion.

SCS assistance has been available, plus ASCS cost share in developing management practices that will reduce non-point pollution. Jim pointed out that the current laws are ineffective today and there is a need for increased incentive and a volunteer approach in solving pollution problems. The direct regulation, such as the Corp. of Engineers 404 permits, require too much time. Senate Bill 310, however, has been well accepted following hearings on the purpose. The Mid-Yellowstone A.P.O. has had a good many lively meetings and the key to development of viable programs requires the cooperation and involvement of local volunteers. Jim is a strong advocate for Conservation Districts implementing this program for this is where the greatest involvement of local citizens remains.

Ole Ueland, Department of Natural Resources, pointed out that E.P.A. is more concerned about regulation than they are the involvement of local people. The State Department of Health and E.P.A. are waiting in the wings to see whether or not local agencies or organizations can, in fact, implement viable programs.

Verne House made additional comments, mentioning that land use policies need to examine the potential for improving water quality through non-point pollution programs. Because of the cost attached to new policies, land-owners need to be compensated for implementing non-point pollution programs. Other notions that need to be considered for implementation of water quality programs include whether or not the public accepts new programs, the public cost involved, the freedom of the individual operator and most important, how functional a plan is and how it is to be implemented.


General Discussion

Following the panel presentation, Torlief asked whether or not this is a program that can go to the people throughout the state. Some discussion reflected that we appear to be talking to ourselves. This is exactly the kind of program that local communities need in order to make better land use decisions. It was also pointed out that we need to objectively define the issues in order to reduce distortion. We also need to be more pragmatic and localize the programs if we expect to involve local decision makers. RAD cannot do it by itself, therefore, the Executive Committee will continue to discuss this matter with key agencies, including USDA to see whether or not there is any interest in developing educational programs for community leaders.

The next meeting of the Executive Committee will be held on the 6th of February in Bozeman, Montana. Agenda to be forwarded separately in mid-January.

Being no further business, the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,


Jim DeBree, Secretary

FINANCIAL REPORT
STATE RURAL AREAS DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
For the Period
Dec. 14, 1976 through Nov. 30, 1977

* * * *

Balance - as reported at the last annual meeting in Lewistown, Montana

Balance as of 12/13/76	\$ 452.44
Registration & Meals - Annual mtg. (1976)	492.75
Dues for 1977	360.00
Membership -	
Equity Coop. Brady, Mont.	<u>100.00</u>
1976 Carry over & Income	1,405.19

EXPENDITURES

Dec. 10, 1976 - Meals & Coffee (1976 Annual Mtg.)	484.50
Jan. 1, 1977 - Great Decisions (Mont. Coop. Ext.)	60.00
Feb. 2, 1977 - S.R.S. Snack Bar - Helena	25.20
Feb. 15, 1977 - Stamps and Phone calls	36.95
May 2, 1977 - Refreshments (M.S.U. Sub)	24.00
May 10, 1977 - Stamps, Phone, Misc.	24.04
Aug. 7, 1977 - Refreshments (M.S.U. sub)	23.10
Sept. 1, 1977 - Stamps, Phone, Misc.	32.36
Oct. 9, 1977 - Phone, Stamps, Refreshments	<u>38.90</u>
Total Expenses	749.05
Balance as of 11/30/77	656.14

1977 MEMBERSHIP

Paid annual dues	72	360.00
Paid Life Membership dues	0	0
Paid Assoc. Membership dues	0	0
Paid Sustaining Membership dues	1	<u>100.00</u>
Total		460.00

1976 PAID ANNUAL DUES

Memberships	91	455.00
Assoc. Memberships:		
Inland Forest Council		
Mont. Dept. of Agriculture		
Mont. Farmer's Union		
Equity Coop. Assoc. Brady	4	<u>250.00</u>
Total		855.00

1977 Mailing List -- 250 people

FINANCIAL STATEMENT
Montana State R.A.D. Committee
Annual Meeting

Billings, Montana
Dec. 1 & 2, 1977

Meals paid for and Registration fees:

Registration fees - 58 @ \$3.00	\$174.00
Noon luncheon - Dec. 1 - 48 @ \$3.50	168.00
Dinner - Dec. 1 - 58 @ \$7.50	435.00
Noon luncheon - Dec. 2 - 50 @ \$3.50	<u>175.00</u>
	952.00

Complimentary Meals:

Dinner - Dec. 1 - 2 @ \$6.75	13.50
Lunch - Dec. 2 - 1 @ \$3.50	<u>3.50</u>
	17.00

Expenditures:

Coffee & doughnuts - Dec. 1 (A.M.)	22.50
Luncheon - Dec. 1 - 48 @ \$3.50 + (\$24 tip)	192.00
Coffee & doughnuts - Dec. 1 (P.M.)	37.00
Dinner - Dec. 1 - 60 @ \$6.75 + (\$60 tip)	465.00
Coffee & doughnuts - Dec. 2 (A.M.)	47.50
Luncheon - Dec. 2 - 50 @ \$3.50 + (\$27 tip)	202.00
Coffee & doughnuts - Dec. 2 (P.M.)	21.20
Flowers for banquet	<u>15.00</u>

Total for food, gratuities and flowers: 1,002.20

The amount received in payment of food and registration fees was \$50.20 short of paying food, gratuities, flowers and services provided at the annual meeting. In addition to this the speaker was paid \$50.00 and the piano player \$25.00 which means there was a net deficit of \$125.20 in conducting this years annual meeting.

82 individuals registered for the meeting.
40 individuals paid their \$5.00.
Annual dues for a total of \$200.00.



WILDLIFE COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT

December 1, 1977

The wildlife subcommittee met 4 times in 1977, our last meeting being held yesterday, here in Billings.

At the beginning of the year we had 25 agency and organization members on the committee. Since that time, the Montana Outfitters and Guides have discontinued their membership, but we recently added a member for the Garfield-McCone Legislative Council. So we still have 25 members, some are vitally interested and participate in every meeting, while a few seem to come only when they have nothing else to do.

We watched the 1977 Legislature with interest and a great deal of concern. The message gained from the November, 1976 voting booths seemed to suggest that Montana citizens wanted nothing new from their legislators; they wanted their lives and their pocket books left alone for awhile.

But the legislature hardly got started when it came under pressure from all sides for all kinds of legislation. There was a big push by coal interests, real estate people, power interests, and water and mining interests to weaken or completely eliminate many of Montana's nationally recognized resource laws. And on the other side there was a concerted effort by environmental interests to strengthen these same resource laws. These kinds of actions hardly seemed like the message being generated by the ordinary voter at the 1976 polls. In the end of course, the legislature rejected most proposals, the House going one way, the Senate another, and so they maintained the status quo through stalemate.

Our committee members were satisfied with addition of the Bobcat to the state furbearer list but we were disappointed that the Legislature did not concur in our recommendation for retention of the Extension Wildlife specialists at Missoula and Bozeman. It seems obvious to me that these two positions were eliminated simply because of lack of support from administrators in the Fish and Game Department. What impacts this action, or inaction if you wish, will have on future public relation programs of the Department remains to be seen.

Our committee has spent every meeting this year studying landowner/sportsman relations and the one thing that is abundantly clear is the poor PR enjoyed by Montana's Fish and Game Department.

Landowners are not enthused with some Fish and Game policies, and most sportsmen simply regard them as a nuisance. These kinds of attitudes have to be changed, and must be changed, before we can have a meaningful and workable landowner/sportsman relations program in Montana, and also in order to improve the PR of our Fish and Game Department.

It is my opinion, and I'm sure the opinion of many others, that our Fish and Game biologists and other employees are competent and dedicated people. It's not in spite of, but rather it's because of these people, and the Departments foresight in acquiring game ranges and access areas, that we in Montana still enjoy hunting and fishing equal to that of any other area in this country.

But Fish and Game has to figure out a way to impress Montana people with the successes of their programs. They've got to figure out a way to improve their public image. Sportsmens' clubs have been major supporters of Fish and Game programs over the years, partly because the Extension Wildlife Specialists worked closely with many of these clubs. The Extension positions are now gone and many sportsmens' clubs are generally ineffective, so the Fish and Game Administrators are now faced with a real challenge to improve their image and PR with the ordinary Montana citizen. I suggest that they need help and I also suggest that this help will come when they once again begin to encourage and support and work with sportsmens' groups in local communities.

Landowner/sportsman relations is an involved and sticky problem and it will probably never be resolved to the satisfaction of everyone. There are some landowners who can't get along with their own families let alone their neighbors, so we can't expect any help from them. And there are many people who buy hunting and fishing licenses who have no concept of wildlife or resource management and whose conduct is atrocious when they go to the field, so we can't expect any help from them either.

Land ownership rights in this country have evolved since the founding fathers set foot here, and they are still evolving. But in general, legal title to a piece of land conveys the right to the title holder to manage that piece of land in any way the title holder wishes, so long as the management does not create environmental and other hazards detrimental to others. Some title holders recognize that their stewardship of the land is for only a brief span of time, that land ownership is a real and valuable privilege, and these people are often willing to share this privilege with others. There are lots of people in Montana, and if we work with them in the right way there is no reason why we can't have access to their land and also enjoy their landownership rights, if we will only set some sensible standards for conduct while we are there.

The whole problem of course centers on how much value we really place on our fish and wildlife resources. This evaluation by us and by people in positions of influence is shaping and will continue to shape future management policies. If we continue to place most of our emphasis in this country on monetary wealth, and what we can do to get our hands on it, then such things as water quality, and air quality, and esthetics and even the peace of mind that people experience by getting away from other people, will surely continue to decline, and along with them the loss of our wildlife resources.

Land use, the theme of this meeting, has been a dominant factor in determining the trends of man's history, yet historians have seldom noted or recorded the importance of land use. Most writers of current history

recognize that strong and wealthy nations are those with abundant natural resources, including fertile soils, but they often forget that many of the poor and weak nations, so called developing nations, once had these resources too.

Early man was not a conservationist, contrary to what some might think. He cut or burned most of the usable timber; he overgrazed and denuded the grasslands; he killed most of the wildlife; he caused erosion to rob his land of its productive topsoil and fill his irrigation canals and harbors with silt. Thus, ancient civilizations grew and declined during the centuries.

An exception has been the Nile Valley of Egypt. Here the silt and humus from the jungles was deposited annually over much of Egypt by the high waters of the Nile. Records suggest that in the first thousand years after Christ, about 50 inches of silt were deposited on the floodplain. This annual layer of new soil and mineral elements has been the secret of Egypt's long and productive existence. But two things are now happening in the Valley that may change all this: (1) Civilized man is occupying the headwaters of the Nile with his plow and axe and cattle, and (2) modern engineers are trying to control the Nile with large dams. The dams are to control flooding and provide year-round irrigation, sounds good! But now that flooding has stopped, the minerals and humus have also stopped. Crop yields have naturally declined. So the already impoverished peasants must not only pay taxes on the dams and the water they get from them, but they must now buy commercial fertilizer to maintain the fertility of their soil. Time will tell if Egypt can survive these recent developments.

The history of the U.S., up to the 30's, follows very closely the pattern of many ancient civilizations. The difference is, the U.S. had a large area of rich land - about 2 billion acres of forests, and prairies, and majestic mountains, and shimmering lakes, and crystal clear streams. In fact, our land area and its vast resources have been important factors in determining our form of government. Our people have enjoyed free enterprise in industry; freedom to exploit the land, the forests, and the minerals; we have had freedom of speech and numerous political institutions, largely because our land was rich - because there was enough resources for everyone, and everybody has been permitted to exploit them as he pleased; at least until recent years, when some of these resources have begun to show frightening signs of scarcity.

We all wonder what the atomic age will offer our nation. Most of us can probably get along without fishing and hunting and other outdoor sports, because man is adaptable, and he can probably adjust to an environment of brick, stone, and concrete, and he may even find substitutes for scarce minerals and depleted fuel resources. But man still has to eat!

Our earth's population reached 1 billion back in 1830. Today, 146 years later, we have 4 billion. We get 200,000 more each day, or 75 million more each year. At the current 1.9% yearly growth rate, the World's population will double about every 36 years, and this means that population projection curves will soon be going off the top of the page. Can you imagine caring for and feeding 8 billion by 2012, 16 billion by 2048, or 32 billion in another hundred years?

We do have the lessons of history, but it has been said that if history teaches us anything it is that it reaches us nothing; we seem to learn only through our own experiences, not through the experiences of others.

We do have much of the technical and practical knowledge needed for controlling and maintaining our environment. The problem is, misinformation can be disseminated almost as effectively as correct information. Also, we have become so science conscious in the U.S. that many seem to think we are at last the master of nature.

The poet Robert Frost once wrote, "What makes a nation in the beginning is a good piece of real estate." Our nation has certainly been so blessed, and I'm sure most of us want to keep it that way, although our ideas of operation may vary.

As chairman of the Wildlife Subcommittee, I have operated on the philosophy that wildlife and wildlife habitat are our major concerns, and that major changes detrimental to wildlife and wildlife habitat should be carefully evaluated and possibly opposed. For without wildlife, and some kind of access to it, the future of hunting is certainly in jeopardy. But I happen to believe that the future of hunting rests squarely on the hunter, not necessarily on the Conservationist, or the wilderness buff, or the Fish and Game Biologist, but on the hunter.

If the hunter will commit himself politically, morally, and financially, then game management agencies will continue to enhance and regulate our game supply. But, if through inaction and indifference, as at present, the hunter allows game management to be corroded and weakened by politicians and salesmen for the GNP, then hunting is sure to be lost by default. I've said many times that the future quality of hunting will be determined by the quality of the future hunter. Even today, a growing number of hunters demand something to hunt and a place to hunt it, with little expenditure on their part of time, or effort, or money. Most hunters have little knowledge about the act of hunting, or little sympathy or understanding of wildlife, and its habitat needs. The real hunter, by contrast, imposes some restrictions on himself when he goes to the field; he practices safety, he does not trespass, he abides by the law, and he supports the principles of game management.

Many of us are reluctant to accept more regulation of our lives and property, but if we want to continue enjoying our out-door recreation, some of our freedom may need to be traded. We will surely need better control of our land and the vegetation it supports, for this is the basis of all life, including that of our wildlife.

If we are really serious about protecting and preserving all our wildlife species, we may need laws, for instance, that will forbid the clear-cutting of mixed age forests, that will prevent the plowing of wind sensitive rangeland, as we've seen occur in Montana in the last 2 years, that will prohibit the cultivating of slopes that exceed a certain degree of steepness, that prevents any practice which lowers the water quality of our streams. We may need laws that require rigid testing of hunter skills and knowledge,

before we provide people with a license to hunt.

These are extreme examples, but our subcommittee is exploring some of these issues, as they effect landowner/sportsman relations. We hope to have a final report to the Executive Committee by mid-1978.

MONTANA STATE RURAL AREAS DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

SOILS SUBCOMMITTEE REPORT

December 1, 1977

Beginning in 1971, the Cooperative Extension Service and Agricultural Experiment Station of Montana State University expanded research and educational efforts in soil fertility. This increased emphasis was made possible by added funding derived from a \$0.35 per ton tax on fertilizer which was supported by the State RAD Committee. The nature and purpose of the tonnage tax, the income and expenditures for the period March 1971 through June 1976, and the programs funded by this tax were reviewed in the Soils Subcommittee Report presented at the 16th Annual State RAD Meeting.

Shown below are fertilizer tonnages sold in calendar years 1975-76 and the first six months of 1977 along with income for FY 75-76, 76-77 and the first half of FY 77-78. Fertilizer sales in calendar year 1976

Fertilizer Tonnage Sold				Income		
Year	Jan.-June	July-Dec.	Total	Fiscal Year	Coop. Ext. Service	Ag. Exp. Station
1975	76,986	93,338	170,324	75-76	\$29,436	\$29,436
1976	163,009	120,916	283,925	76-77	\$42,845	\$42,845
1977	184,098			77-78	\$29,828	\$29,828


were ^{67%} greater than in 1975 and 6% greater than in 1973, the year of previous record sales. Demand for fertilizer products continued strong into the first six months of 1977. Although tonnage data for the second half of 1977 are not yet available, other indicators suggest that demand has softened somewhat as a result of crop price uncertainties. While fertilizer tonnages rise and fall in response to market forces, the generally upward trend indicates that farmers and ranchers are using increasing amounts of fertilizer as improved management practices are demonstrated to them.

Research and educational programs funded by the assessment on fertilizer tonnage in 1976-77 include: (1) Statewide studies to evaluate the effectiveness of different nitrogen fertilizer sources and to develop and demonstrate management practices which will maximize the efficiency of these products, (2) Studies to demonstrate damage resulting from improper placement of fertilizer with the seed of small grains, (3) Continuation of large scale grazing trials to evaluate fertilization of native range, (4) Laboratory and field studies to improve correlations between potassium soil tests and crop response to potassium fertilizer, (5) Studies to refine soil test correlations for forages and small grains, (6) Field studies to evaluate the effectiveness of applying nitrogen fertilizer solutions to small grains through irrigation systems, and (7) Educational programs to acquaint producers with techniques for measuring stored soil moisture as an input in determining fertilizer needs and establishing yield goals.

While major emphasis in the Extension soils program is centered around soil fertility, the extension soil scientists are also called upon to provide educational leadership in soil and water conservation.

Dr. Paul Kresge, Extension Soil Scientist, has been instrumental in developing and publishing the Montana Resource Inventory Handbook and will be conducting educational sessions with city and county planners, county commissioners and civic groups to demonstrate methods of gathering and displaying natural and social resource inventory data. The purpose of the Handbook is to increase the public's awareness of their resources so that they can contribute more wisely to the decision-making process regarding use of local land resources.

Respectfully submitted,


Neil W. Christensen
Extension Soil Scientist

NOTES FOR RAD MEETING, DECEMBER 1, 1977

BILLINGS

COMMENTS BY CHARLES RUST - LAND MANAGEMENT IN THE NEW FARM BILL

The 1977 Food and Agriculture Act was signed into law by the President of the U.S. on September 29, 1977. The basic purpose of the law is to provide price and income protection for farmers and assure consumers of an abundance of food and fiber at reasonable prices and other purposes. So stated at the beginning of the Act.

If you disagree or agree that the Act went far enough in its various sections, I think we should momentarily set that aside and address the topic of land mgmt. and the new farm bill. Before we discuss what farmers are faced with perhaps we should relate to the philosophy about how the present administration views the Farm Act because the administration will likely be here until the next election.

The following comments were made by John C. White, Deputy Sec. of Ag., in the absence of Sec. Bergland at the 1978 Food and Agriculture Outlook Conference on November 14. And I quote:

"The New Law

1. Provides price support loans for our major commodities that will keep the U.S. competitive in world markets.
2. Provides the mechanism to support farmers income through deficiency payments, that this year will total almost 1.2 billion dollars to wheat producers.
3. Establishes a 30 to 35 million metric ton food and feed grain reserve.
4. Provides set-aside authority to bring production more closely in line with potential demands so that farmers will produce for markets. There is an announced 20 percent set-aside for wheat. (Speaker's note: In Montana there is a 10 percent set-aside for barley)
5. Makes substantial revisions in the foreign food assistance programs. It strengthens U.S. commitments to use Public Law 480 as a major market development tool, not a surplus commodity disposal give-away.
6. It broadens the research missions of the Dept. of Ag. and it grants new authority to search for and develop alternative energy sources for Ag.
7. Mandates research priorities for human nutrition to make certain that we know as much as possible about the nutritional needs of all people.
8. Reforms the Food Stamp Program through the elimination of the purchase requirement and the tightening of eligibility requirements. It makes food stamps more available to our citizens who need them the most."

In a recent Cabinet action by Pres. Carter and the creation of a Cabinet-level working group on food and agriculture policy that is headed by USDA, the Pres. summed up his Administration position on food and ag. policies. He said "This administration is determined to develop food and agricultural policies which help the people who need help the most, both in the U.S. and abroad. The U.S. policy should give producers the greatest possible access to foreign markets while helping poor nations improve their ability to produce and distribute food."

Another reference by Congress in the Farm Law, the Legislators wrote:

"Congress firmly believes that the maintenance of the family farm system of ag. is essential to the social well-being of the Nation and the competitive production of adequate supply of food and fiber. The New Law further explains the intent of Congress by stating that Legislators do not want programs administered in a manner that would put family farms at unfair economic advantage. On the other hand, Congress does not intend for ag. programs to be administered exclusively for family farm operations."

Law makers also want better information about family farms and USDA will be that primary source of information. By July 1 of each year a report will be submitted to Congress with current information on trends in family farm operations including national and statewide data on non-family farms.

So much for a brief sketch and outline of the intent of the Farm Act. I am going to make the assumption that most of you are somewhat familiar with the farm program and its provisions. So let's concentrate primarily on a few items related to the topic of land mgmt. in the New Farm Bill. We will be raising the questions as best I can that farmers and you who are interested in ag., rural development and land use, are likely concerned about. Then, we will make some suggestions on how to cope with it and delay some until tomorrow because some items are on Friday's agenda.

In visiting with some of our Ag. Economists about the strategies that the individual farmer will use to ascertain whether or not he wants to comply with the farm program or not. In most cases, the pencil pushing suggests that in general, the individual operator will be better off complying totally with the Farm Act. In some cases it may be so close that the decision to totally comply or not to comply may not be clear cut. Let's assume that the farmer does comply totally with the farm program, then what kinds of questions need to be asked and what types of questions will be raised in terms of the mgmt. of the individual farm?

1. Will farmers try to maximize production on crop acres? For example, more intensity in farming, applying more fertilizer, and setting aside those marginal acres.
2. Who will determine the normal cropping practice in a given area?
3. What land will be removed by the farmer? Will it be normal crop acreage? Will it be the Saline Seeps that need vegetation in the recharge areas?

4. What can be planted on the normal cropping acres that are set aside?
5. How does Executive Order 11990, May 24, 1977, "Protection of Wetlands" fit into this environment of the 1977 Farm Act?
6. How can the Producer make decisions concerning the 208 and other restriction when handling his set-aside?
7. What effect will it have on farm real estate values? Will they go up, will they stabilize or will they decrease?
8. Can we effectively manage the land resource given the guidelines and the minimums and the flexibility within the Farm Law?

Let's back up and try to respond briefly to each of these questions.

A. Will farmers try to maximize production on crop acres? By more intensely farming, I think, the evidence of the recent history of ag. producers is that they certainly will manage their farming operations more intensely. Drs. Christianson and Wilson have talked about your soils committee. My estimate is that farmers will be analyzing their soil fertility needs much more closely this year and we will likely see an increase in bushels per acre produced on those acres that are harvested.

B. Who determines the normal cropping practices in counties? I have been told by the State ASCS staff that the local ASCS committee will have the authority to determine what is the normal cropping practices in a county. If normally it is 50% summer fallow and 50% cropping, then they will make that determination. If it is something else, they will make that determination for the county. I think it behooves all producers to make certain that they make their wishes known to their county committeemen so that committee system can function.

C. What land will farmers remove from production? Certainly this will be an individual farmer and rancher decision. The temptation to take away marginal lands and the lands that are affected by saline seeps or other adverse problems will be present. This will create some land stewardship problems of living with the farm program. Certainly farmers will have to manage their farm very carefully in an attempt to have vegetation on the recharge areas. What can be produced on the set-aside acres? Art Shaw - Ext. Agronomist at M.S.U. has prepared a paper at the Grain Growers in Great Falls this week that addresses this problem.

Most of the following comments were prepared by Art Shaw.

To comply with the program requires the operator to set-aside acres on which he will be obligated to establish vegetative cover to protect the soil against wind and water erosion. Program compliance further requires that the vegetative cover, whatever it may be, shall not be allowed to set seed, produce grain, nor shall hay or grazing be permitted. This appears to be a rather stringent provision, yet is designed to prevent over-production of crops or livestock.

The required set-aside acres for wheat will be 20% of the wheat actually planted for harvest in 1978, which is 20% less than the 1977 planted acres. In other words, you set aside 2 acres for every 10 acres planted for harvest. Planted acres plus set aside cannot exceed the farmers normal crop acreage.

For barley in Montana, an operator must set aside 1 acre for each 10 acres planted. Then for each ten acres of wheat plus each 10 acres of feed grain planted for harvest, the operator must set aside a total of 3 acres which must be protected by vegetative cover.

The land eligible for set-aside shall be land which has been under cultivation during the past 3 years and producing a crop other than hay or pasture. If the hay or pasture was grown on a normal crop rotation system is my understanding it should qualify for set-aside. Summer-fallow land may not be designated as set-aside. There are some other limitations as to acceptability of certain lands for set-aside which must be approved or cleared by the local county ASCS committee.

Approved practices on the set-aside acres and some of the ways the farmer may manage it: Small grains including winter wheat planted or volunteer stands other than weeds will qualify for vegetative cover of set-aside acres. Such crops must be mowed and not permitted to go to seed. There's one exception, that of course, is when it has been approved for wildlife cover. The RAD Wildlife Subcommittee should be interested in this provision. Grazing or haying of such vegetative cover is prohibited except when approved in emergency situations. The Sec. of Ag. is considering a change in grazing requirements.

There is a wide range of crops that may be used, but most producers will likely attempt to minimize the seed cost when planting. Art Shaw indicates that some spring seeded winter crops such as winter wheat, winter rye or winter barley will qualify as cover. This would seem to be a reasonable answer from a maintenance standpoint, because no clipping or mowing would likely be necessary if the crop was seeded in May; however, Art Shaw and Ed Burns raise a note of caution that whenever winter crops are spring sown, we are virtually putting an incubator into operation for multiplication, growth and spread of the wheat curl mite, which is the vector to the wheat streak mosaic. Such crops if planted must in some way be eliminated or dug up at least 2-3 weeks ahead of fall seeding of winter wheat in the area, to reduce the disease factor. Farmers and ranchers must be careful because of some of the diseases that could develop and the economic loss that could result if diseases develop.

Also, by mowing or clipping spring grains, tillering will likely be initiated in the green vegetative stage will be prolonged and in some cases it could encourage wheat growth and likewise spread the growth of disease. One of the problems associated with the clipping aspect of the program, which is necessary, is that many farmers and ranchers have converted exclusively to swathers for cutting hay and clipping these vegetative covers, particularly alfalfa, with a swather is not a very desirable method. So mowers are not as readily available as they once were and if acquired are an added cost. Needless to say, there may be some clipping problems associated with management of set aside acres.

Again, grazing will not be permitted regardless of the grass or legume that is planted on the set-aside acres, nor may the crop be harvested for hay. If an emergency should occur, grazing or haying may be authorized by the state committee. This has occurred in the past, but is difficult for the producer to plan for such an emergency which normally starts as an act of God.

If the set-aside acres are saline seep recharge acres and the producer plants a cover crop on the saline seep recharge areas, we think there may be a decline in the rate of sub-soil depletion. However, where the vegetation cannot be removed it may trap snow over the winter. Clipping it as short as possible late in the year to reduce the snow catch will likely be a must.

There is some opportunity for the planting of trees and shrubs for wildlife habitat or a farm wood lot, or for forestry purposes. Such plantings may occupy only a portion of the acreage to be set aside with the remaining acres to be treated with one of the other practices approved for set-aside; however, again in certain areas the planting of trees and shrubs, particularly field shelterbelts, may contribute to the spread of saline seeps in the critical saline seep areas. A very close analysis of the site should be made particularly if you know that you have this problem.

The development of water storage on lands under cultivation for the purpose of fish or wildlife habitat will qualify if developed with an approved plan. It must be on designated set-aside acres and development may be during the current or preceding year of the set-aside program. However, water storage facilities may contribute to the development or spread of saline seep. Analysis is advised before launching into a wildlife plantings. Before any development begins the practice must be approved by your local ASCS office. Such practices may qualify under cost sharing provisions of the ACP.

Operators participating in the set-aside program are required to control erosion, insects, weeds and rodents. Land preparation of set-aside acres for fall seeded crops will be permitted. I understand that dates for which such land preparation may begin have not yet been set, but when they are announced they must be strictly adhered to.

How does the Executive order of May 24, 1977, on the protection of wet lands affect the management program?

Although the Executive Order on wetlands probably received its greatest impetus from the coastal areas it could have a significant affect on some Montana ranchers, many of who may have been on a long-term plan of drainage of pot holes and restructuring their land management programs. In his order the Pres. said the unwise use and development of wetlands will destroy many of their special qualities and important natural functions. Recent estimates indicate that the U.S. has already lost 40% of our 120 million acres of wetlands inventoried in the 1950's. This piecemeal alteration and destruction of wetlands through dredging, draining, filling and other means has an adverse accumulative impact on our natural resources and the quality of human life.

In order to avoid to the extent possible the long-term and short-term adverse impacts associated with the destruction or modification of wetlands and to avoid direct or indirect support of new construction of wetlands wherever it is applicable, this order is issued which in effect does not allow for any assistance in draining wetland areas. The wetlands that are included are generally low-lands covered with shallow and sometimes temporary or intermittent water and are commonly referred to as marshes, bogs, slues or ponds.

Once again, I would suggest that this determination of wetlands could place some serious problems on the saline seep outlets where the bog or slue type exists, and where some farmers and ranchers have attempted to drain or try to seed water absorbent vegetation into these areas. I think it's critical that we in Ag. determine what impact this order will have on those selected areas in the state of Montana.

How can a producer make decisions concerning the 208 non-point sources of pollution particularly when he is faced with the situation like the ordinances in Lewis and Clark? What impact, what cost, how does that relate to the new Farm Act?

On your program agenda you have a discussion listed on that tomorrow, therefore I will ignore this area at this time. I think its relation to the Farm Act is one that has to be addressed as state-wide 208 efforts continue to be pursued. Perhaps this needs to be done locally, state-wide and nationally.

What effects will the new Farm Act have on real estate values and farm land values in general?

Recent information from the USDA Outlook Conference indicates that farm real estate values are projected to increase by nearly 6% during 1978. A substantial drop from the 10% increase that is now expected for 1977. The slower growth in land values they feel results from the projection of lower farm income, relatively high interest rates and moderation of price increases in the general economy. The projected increase in farm real estate values is based upon the assumption that buyers' expectations of capital gains will remain strong. But there is a growing despairity between the value of farm real estate and the income generated from farming. That gap is getting wider and questions must be raised as to how long that despairity will continue to grow. In some areas, particularly in the cash grain areas of Montana, the decline in commodity prices in 1977 has lead to the reduction in farm land values. This pattern could continue in 1978 if grain prices in general remain low. I would concur in general that the returns to investment in farm property should have a bit of a dampening affect, but it still appears that farm real estate value is continuing to increase, but at a decreasing rate.

Final question, can we really effectively manage the land resource given the guidelines and the minimum flexibility in the 1977 Farm Act?

Yes, I think we can if, in fact, the county ASCS committees have the kind of flexibility and decision-making authority that I'm told they have. I believe the determination of normal cropping practices in a given county are extremely critical to how the farmer may manage the land. This places a terrific burden on the local farmer committeemen, but if we want the decision to be made locally, then there should be some long hard hours spent by local committees and they should press their professional people for all of the information they possibly can get to try to come up with an objective decision for the local county.

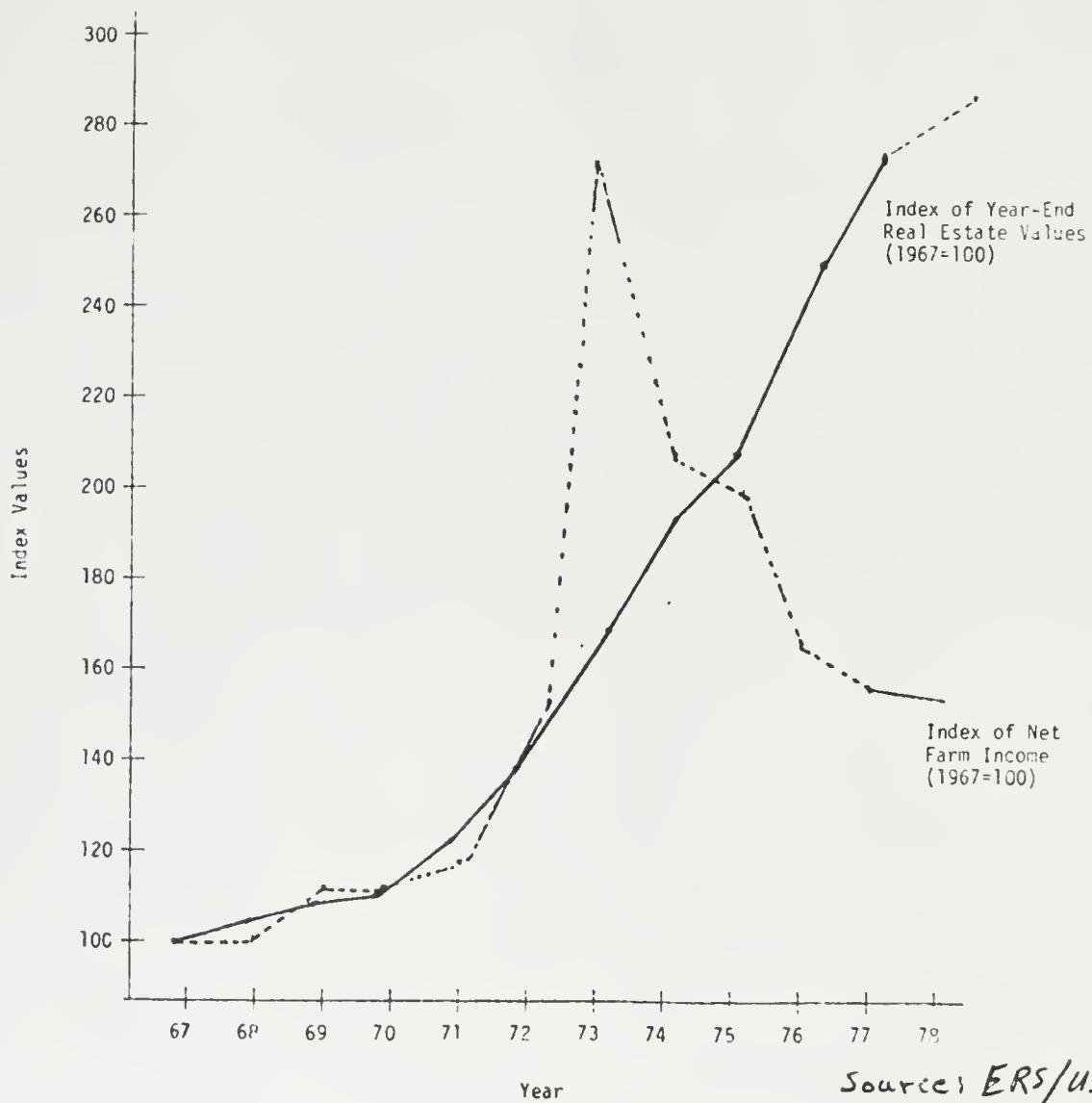
It would appear that with careful management of the given farmstead, that a farmer can still participate in some management practices related to saline seep depending upon the extent of it on his land and upon whether or not he controls the recharge area. This will present a very serious problem where the recharge area is on someone else's property and they choose to take the easiest management route in the normal cropping and set-aside acres.

I hope this information has been of interest to you. I think it's another set of circumstances that are imposed upon farmers and ranchers that in most cases, they wanted some assistance in these areas, but when you have Farm Act compliance along with the many, many other regulations, it becomes a very difficult management situation for a farmer or rancher. Given the 208 regulations that seem to be coming down the pike and have already been acted upon in Lewis and Clark county, given the Executive Order on the protection of wetlands, weed management concerns by the Weed Districts, the new disease problems that have to be adjusted for with the management of set-aside lands, this all adds up to increased costs of production and an extremely complex individual management situation.

We all need to work at informing local people about their opportunities for input at the local level for all land management concerns. RAD, citizens' groups and agencies need to do their best to inform local people. We dare not hide our head under a bushel basket. The greatest problem and the greatest risk is local apathy. You and I did not enact the regulations, but we must continue to turn our own cheek and continue to inform local people of what things are possible so they (individuals) can make the best decision possible. A great tragedy occurs when decisions occur because of lack of knowledge by the local land owner!

ASCS and CES are doing their best to make the Farm Act information available to producers in Montana.

Figure 2 Trends in Land Values and Net Farm Income U.S.



RAD Livestock Sub-Committee

September 28, 1977

Committee members in attendance were Balsam, Brownson, Burnham, Catlin, Davidson, D. Davis, J. Davis, Halver, Sumption, Teigen, Thoft, Williams and Woodward. Guests were Torlief Aasheim, Bob Blackwell, Carl Hoffman, Dick McConnen and Brad Garnick.

The meeting was called to order by Ray Woodward. The reading of the minutes of the last meeting was deferred due to time schedules of several Committee members.

Reports

Dick Davison - Status of the feedlot industry. Although the feedlot industry is concerned by the flow of feeder cattle out of the state, occupancy this year has been better than in the past several years.

The feed situation is better than it has been in a number of years. Wheat feeding has made Montana more competitive this year with other feeding areas in the country. Bushel weight of wheat is more important to Mr. Davidson than protein percentage. He feels that wheat priced at \$2 per bushel is equivalent to \$1.50 barley or corn. Beet pulp has dropped \$25 per ton in September and is now at \$63 per ton. Recently in the Yellowstone valley they have been laying in hay at \$55 per ton delivered to the feedlot. Molasses is at \$40 per ton delivered. 1977 looks to be a good feeding year.

Recently they finished a group of steers which came to the feedlot averaging 724 pounds. They were sold averaging 1056. This gain was made in 148 days. The cost per cwt gain was \$29.26. Mr. Davidson's feeding would indicate that 12 pounds of wheat will replace 15 pounds of barley.

Marketing is still a problem to the Montana finished cattle industry. The competitive bidding for these cattle is improving, however. Dick feels that the competitive position of the Montana feeder is improving compared to the Colorado feeder who is their chief competitor, due to more aggressive marketing tactics.

Dick McConnen - Farm policy. The impact of the farm policy on the livestock industry is not completely known. The bill had not been signed at the time of this reporting. It was thought that it would be a 20 percent set aside which would be worth nearly \$100 per acre. Most people will probably take part in it. The set aside acres can not be hayed or grazed (except for emergency programs).

John Davis - expanded on this situation from the banker's point of view. Feed grains are going under the program very rapidly. Discussion relating to the program suggested that this program could create a demand for cattle in the short run and in the long run may drive prices down.

Dr. Carl Hoffman - Extension Veterinarian. Dr. Hoffman discussed the problems associated with obtaining an Extension Veterinarian. He suggested that it must be done through a "together" approach. People must speak in one voice who are interested in seeing an Extension Veterinarian position created. There are many requests for people and positions for Extension in the last legislature.

From the many requests they had selected nine positions of which the Extension Veterinarian was 5th. Entomologist (1), plant pathologist (2), dairy specialist (3), economic development specialist (4). All were funded. Matching funds were available in some instances.

Dr. Jack Catlin also added to the reporting for Extension Veterinarian. He stated that some groups had softened their support for the Extension Veterinarian during the legislative period because of special interests.

Some discussion resulted from the group as to whether an Extension Veterinarian could serve effectively all aspects of the livestock industry.

LaVon Sumption - Montana Livestock Cooperative. The Montana Livestock Cooperative has reached a point in which they are now offering shares for sale for the project. D. A. Davidson and Co. is serving as the broker to offer shares. All ag lenders (163) in Montana were personally called on to acquaint them with the effort. Also, many producers were contacted. Some lending institutions are now developing loan programs which will enable producers to invest in the Cooperative. The program now is ready to go if financial goals are realized.

Bob Thoft - Weak calf syndrome. Mr. Bob Thoft reported on the present status of the weak calf syndrome now being conducted. Dr. Herb Smith, Veterinarian Research Laboratory, and Bob Thoft are the Montana representatives for the Advisory Committee of this program. The final grant from the Old West Commission is \$259,410. The program is progressing and it was felt by Mr. Thoft that it was going to take considerable time and money to find the answer to this costly disease.

Brad Garnick - presented the new Agr. Net Program. He gave examples of how it might be used with illustrations on least cost rations, weaning data, etc.

Bob Blackwell - presented a brief outline of current Animal Science research in Physiology, Nutrition and Breeding. Primary goal is to serve cow-calf operators. The Chairman asked for suggestions for additional research, but none were forthcoming. Discussion was well received and there appeared to be general agreement with the goals of Department research.

Don Burnham - reported on the situation at the Helena "cowport" which has been closed along with the Moses Lake, Washington facility. The problem is political and results from the Japanese barring all flights into Tokyo from other than Seattle, San Francisco and Los Angeles. This could change at any time.

Ray Woodward - pointed out that several of the goals of this Committee had been reached during the past year. The research on weak calf syndrome and the recognition by the livestock industry (National Cattlemen's Association) that unrealistic health tests and unlimited live animal imports affected border states and Montana in particular. Further action on the Extension Veterinarian question was promised with support from the Montana Stockgrowers and Montana Cattlemen organizations as represented by Teigen and Balsam.

Page 3.

Dr. Glenn Halver - gave a short summary of accomplishments during his tenure as State Veterinarian and a present status report. He was wished well in his retirement by the Committee with an expression of appreciation for a job well done.

Meeting was adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

Ray R. Anderson

MONTANA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES & CONSERVATION DNRC

CONSERVATION DISTRICTS DIVISION

O.M. UELAND, ADMINISTRATOR

32 South Ewing, Helena, Montana 59601

Policies adopted at Executive Committee meeting of Montana
Rangeland Resource Program, March 28, 1977.

1. Memorandum of agreements with all agencies to assure cooperation and coordinator of rangeland activities.
2. Keep the Montana Rangeland Program strictly a grass roots level rancher program with policy directed by ranchers.
3. Stress programs of range leaders, and concentrate on inactive districts.
4. Consider matter of newsletter and encourage radio, T.V. and news releases on range related matters.
5. Reorganize importance of grass lands vie improving Saline Seep and Water Quality problems.
6. Because more involved in all matters concerning rangelands, such as grazing fees, recreational use of range land, allotment plans and others.

SPEECH

When I sat down to prepare an annual report on the range program for the past year, I must confess that I came up with some rather mixed feelings. It seemed that the program might be likened to the tracks made by a broken down wagon, wobbling from side to side, making marks of little consequence, and going nowhere in particular. I believe that we must repair the wagon and set up a program that will let us make straighter and more discernable tracks to our goals of proper range management.

Perhaps I should, however, qualify these statements because there have been several very important things accomplished during the past year. The drouth condition, the economic situation and the fight for survival have affected the program and forced changes in management plans. The one thing that stands out however is that well managed ranges are standing these pressures fairly well as compared to poorly managed, over grazed ranges, so our educational program has been curtailed some, especially in central Montana, because the range specialist was detailed to assist the Grazing Districts and other B.L.M. permittees with their new Allotment Management Plans. We believe this paid off as the Old West Regional Commission granted the Public Lands Council money to continue this monitoring in other areas. There will be a range scientist working full time on the program in central Montana this next year. The Old West Regional Range Program was renewed for two more years beginning last July, so the range program will continue to work together until this grant expires, and then merge into the Montana Rangeland Program.

A current assessment of the range situation was made and the results were published in a revision of the Montana Rangeland Resource Program book. Despite many adverse factors, most of the original goals are being well met. New projects were incorporated into the program, especially the need for more coordinated planning, erosion, recreation water quality and others.

Possibly the most important happening was the passage of the Montana Rangeland Resource Act by the Legislature. This gives legal status to the range program, which has been operating on a trial basis under a Joint Senate-House resolution since 1970. Under this legislation, which by the way, is the first adopted in any state, there is an opportunity to establish a permanent rangeland resource program. The Act provides for recognition of the importance of Montana's rangeland with respect to livestock, forage, wildlife habitat, high quality water production, pollution control, erosion control, recreation and natural beauty. It also calls for cooperation and coordination of range management activities between persons and organizations charged with or having the management of rangelands whether public or private; and for appropriate recognition of those who are doing exceptional work in range management.

It is very evident that we must now establish some very definite guidelines and goals for the Montana Rangeland program, which will be addressed as mandated by law, with the cooperation of all interested individuals and agencies. With this kind of direction the Rangeland Resource program should assume its proper role as a very important part of the state's Agricultural Resource program. The tracks that the old wagon makes through the grass should be a little straighter and will appear to have a more definite goal from now on.



MONTANA WOODLAND COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT TO THE RURAL AREAS DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

from the

FORESTRY SUBCOMMITTEE

The following discusses the impacts and importance of each of the priority programs to be reviewed and dealt with during 1977 and 1978, and some of the reasons for the Subcommittee's interest.

1. FOREST TAXATION - Rather than belabor this particular topic, I refer you to the minutes of the RAD Executive Committee meeting of April 12, 1977, which generally outlines the present situation and some feasible alternatives (copy attached). The Legislative Council's Revenue Oversight Committee is presently in the process of reviewing a variety of taxation situations in Montana including timber taxation.

2. URBAN/COMMUNITY FORESTRY - The tree-covered and tree-lined streets add to the well-being of the citizens of Montana's cities and towns. The Forestry Subcommittee, aware of the problems surrounding the planting, growing and maintenance of city trees and shrubs, will endeavor to more thoroughly analyze the current situation and to make necessary recommendations to aid cities and towns in their development of long-range vegetation management programs.

Our analysis and recommendations should be aided by other RAD Subcommittees; namely, Community Development, Recreation, and Wildlife, and others as might be deemed appropriate, and their assistance is sought and would be appreciated.

3. WILDLIFE HABITAT IMPROVEMENT - There is urgent need to assist federal and state agencies in striving for improvement and maintenance of wildlife habitat across the state. The Woodland Council has established a Wildlife Development Task Force to analyze the situation and recommend direction the Subcommittee should take.

Coordination and assistance by the RAD Wildlife Subcommittee is solicited.

4. IMPACTS OF PUBLIC FORESTLAND DECISIONS UPON THE PRIVATE SECTOR - Most decisions made by land managers regulating the publicly-owned forests of Montana have subsequent impacts upon the private sector, including the privately-owned forests and local communities and their economic well-being.

Generally, minimal consideration is given to a local economy or to adjacent private forests during the decision-making process affecting public lands.

Probably the best example of unforeseen impacts is due to the withdrawal of timber resources through Wilderness classification. The impacts of accelerated cutting of private lands to fill the wood supply void created by Wilderness decisions are to a great extent unknown, but can be suspected to be deleterious to the long-range timber supply. Not all impacts are necessarily harmful, but do exist and must be thoughtfully considered.

The Woodland Council assigned a Task Force to begin analysis of the situation and how to best make the public agencies more cognizant of their responsibilities to the private sector.

5. BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES - The Woodland Council is aware that normal operations in the harvest of timber are in need of improvement in order to best protect, maintain and improve all the forest resources and to meet national wood supply needs. We also feel that increased regulation by government through a Forest Practices Act is not necessarily the optimum means of attaining the goals of multiple-use management.

We feel that the forest products industry, the owners of forest land and all who are involved with the harvest and management of Montana's forests will do the right thing given the opportunity to do so.

Therefore the Forestry Subcommittee will strive to coordinate and cooperate with the various agencies, organizations and groups to bring about a better awareness of the importance of the practices best suited to particular forest activities and sites, and how to best accomplish these practices.

1977 saw culmination of the Forestry Subcommittee's involvement in a conflict between the private Montana Nurseryman's Association and the Department of Natural Resources and Conservation. The conflict surrounded a charge of unfair competition in the growing and selling of bare-rooted nursery stock from the Forest Tree Nursery in Missoula.


A copy of Recommendations on Operation of State Forest Tree Nursery is attached.

The Forestry Subcommittee's efforts to get a Forestry Extension Specialist was again to no avail at the last legislative session. However, because of the importance of and the need for this educator position to the forest owners of Montana, efforts will be renewed.

The Western States Forestry Task Force, a legislatively appointed body including the five northwestern states, is presently under fire from various factions and its continued existence is in jeopardy. Efforts will most assuredly be made at the 1979 legislative session to withdraw Montana's representation.

This Task Force is an important communicative link between states and between states and the federal government regarding forestry and resource matters, is accomplishing its important objectives and needs support for its continued existence.

The Forestry Subcommittee recommends that the RAD express support for the Western States Forestry Task Force and endorse its continued funding at the next legislative session.


Chairman, Forestry Subcommittee

MONTANA WOODLAND COUNCIL

Recommendations on Operation of State Forest Tree Nursery

Included as part of the recommendations are role statements presented by the Division of Forestry and the Montana Association of Nurserymen. The role statements and the recommendations developed by the subcommittee were presented to the Woodland Council on October 21 and unanimously approved.

Subcommittee members were: John Bruns, Chairman
Jane Barry
Walt Fillmore
Gary Brown
Hal Hunter

Role of Montana's Forest Tree Nursery

The reforestation of State and private lands is critical to the future supply of wood products to Montana as well as the nation as a whole. Trees planted for wind protection are essential to the welfare and economy of the farming and ranching industry of Montana.

The operation of the Montana Forest Tree Nursery by the Division of Forestry, Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation is essential for the production of hardy, high quality tree seedlings for forestry purposes and conservation plantings.

Long range investments in tree planting for forestry purposes, wind protection, and non-point pollution control demands that the tree seedling stock be sold to industry and private land-owners at a nominal cost.

The State Forest Tree Nursery can be of great benefit to the private commercial tree nurseries in Montana by the dissemination of research findings, development of nursery equipment, identification of new tree species and tree seed sources suited to Montana's extreme climatic conditions, training, testing new tree nursery practices and techniques, and the prevention and control of tree insects and diseases, as well as creating a more favorable situation for the marketing of ornamental stock by the private nursery sector.

Policy of the Montana Association of Nurserymen with Regard to the State Forest Tree Nursery, Missoula, Montana

The Montana Association of Nurserymen takes the position that the State Forest Tree Nursery must return to the original intent of Conservation Nurseries as set forth in the Clark-McNary Act. We recommend that they limit their production of seed and seedlings to reforestation and afforestation use on State lands; farm and ranch plantings for windbreaks and shelterbelts, wildlife plantings and conservation plantings for erosion control throughout the State. Seed and seedlings for other than the above mentioned uses must cease.

We feel that this stand is necessary because:

1. The State Forest Tree Nursery is State supported and competing with private enterprise.

2. The private nurseryman is forced into a position of supporting his competition with his own tax dollars.
3. Private enterprise is fully capable of meeting the needs of seedling production in Montana.
4. We must educate the taxpayers away from total dependence upon State agencies if private enterprise is to succeed in Montana.

Committee Recommendations

Having met with the Montana Association of Nurserymen and received their responses to the Woodland Council Report on the State Forest Tree Nursery it is clear there is no support for closure of the nursery by them. Their primary concerns, as we understand them, are unfair price competition and misuse of woody plant material intended to serve only conservation purposes. The recommendations developed for consideration by the Montana Woodland Council address several of their concerns.

The subcommittee recommends the following items for consideration and follow-up by the council as courses of action that parties involved in the production, use or administration of programs that encourage the use of trees and shrubs for conservation purposes. We believe the implementation of these recommendations is essential to maintain or strengthen the conservation use of trees and shrubs in Montana and to foster close working relationships among all parties involved.

1. The Department of Natural Resources and Conservation, Forestry Division and the Montana Association of Nurserymen jointly investigate opportunities to reduce competition with private nurserymen in the sale of seedling planting stock for conservation purposes and for use in establishing Christmas tree plantings.
2. An expression of interest in servicing the market for woody conservation plant materials the subcommittee recommends that the Montana Association of Nurserymen insure that catalogs be made available to all SCS, Extension Service, Conservation District, and Division of Forestry offices detailing the kind and quantities of plant material available and the price per volume unit.
3. To insure the proper use of trees and shrubs for conservation purposes the subcommittee recommends that the SCS, Division of Forestry, Forest Service, Extension Service, Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service, Montana Association of Conservation Districts, and the Montana Association of Nurserymen review agency policies and organizational arrangements to insure that programs encouraging the use of woody plant materials are not being abused or causing unnecessary competition to private nurserymen. We further recommend that the organization involved implement a system to spot check use of woody plant materials for conservation purposes to document proper use.
4. All groups involved in the production and use of woody plant materials or in the administration of programs encourage the use of woody plant

plant materials for conservation purposes should develop a coordinated program encouraging greater use of quality woody plant materials for conservation purposes.

RAD FARM SAFETY SUBCOMMITTEE REPORT

Prepared for the 1977 Annual Meeting
Roy Linn

The RAD Safety Subcommittee has been quite active over the past year. The first meeting of the year was somewhat of an organizational meeting to decide on what subjects should be covered for the year at the following meetings and their order of preference and give each a priority.

The members present felt that subjects of safety on the highways relating to farm equipment and movement of cattle had first priority; followed by fire safety, pesticides safety, and overhead electrical wires.

Following the subcommittee's first annual meeting of 1977, there were work meetings held in Helena to work on the more important topics. The first such meeting, we received a report from Sergeant Ted Stolfuss, Head of Safety Education and Training for the Montana Highway Patrol. He presented us information on moving farm equipment and cattle on primary and secondary highways in Montana. As a result of this meeting, the Farm Safety Subcommittee put together information and the pamphlet "Farm Safety on Highways" is now available.

The second topic covered at a later meeting in Helena was on fire protection in rural areas. This information was presented by a member of the State Fire Marshalls office. Basic concepts of fire prevention and fire safety in both rural and urban communities were discussed. As a result of this meeting and subsequent work meetings, a pamphlet titled, "Fire Sense for Montana Farmers and Ranchers" was produced. We also now have available a slide series with cassette tape on the classification of fires and portable fire extinguishers.

With the subject priorities set by the committee, I have put together and developed slide series with cassette tapes that cover tractors, machinery, and shop safety; a series on overhead wires titled, "Caution! Look up. Power lines might be overhead."; and a series on smoke and heat detectors which covers the various types, their operation and installation.

Topics to be covered at our next meeting, which will be held after the first of January 1978, ^{are} ~~is~~ Pesticide Safety--the application, handling, and disposal. Also, we will be giving some thought to ways we can provide information to families on what to do in their homes and how they should be prepared in the event of a power outage for an extended length of time.

At the time that we were working with the Montana Highway Patrol, Sergeant Stolfuss informed us that someone in his safety and education office would be available to meet and discuss any type of problem that relates to farm implements or vehicle transportation on highways or any other topic that an organization may wish to have the Patrol discuss with them. If any organization wishes to use this opportunity, I will be glad to make arrangements for any of the safety meetings.

Members of the committee seem to be very interested in this committee as we have had good attendance at all of our meetings in Bozeman and Helena.

Pamphlets that were presented during this report are available in bulk for organizations interested in disseminating them to their members or residents of their communities. They can be obtained through my office at Room 406 Cobleigh Hall, Montana State University, Bozeman, MT 59717; or through the Cooperative Extension Mail Room.

December 8, 1977

Remote Sensing Subcommittee

Annual Report

The Remote Sensing Subcommittee of R.A.D. is a newly created subcommittee charged with responsibility to investigate, catalog, and distribute information on the use of remotely sensed data in Montana.

Use of remote sensing products is becoming an increasingly important tool for land managers faced with the responsibility to make useful decisions based on factual data but without adequate manpower to provide the necessary survey information. Because remote sensors can cover large areas inexpensively and record imagery on products that can be effectively used by technicians, these tools are being used to provide necessary factual data used in the decision making process by governmental and private agencies which manage land.

There has been an explosion in the number of people and agencies using remotely sensed products to survey, inventory, plan and map large areas of the state. There are a wealth of products generated each year at many different scales from 1"=1 mile to 1"=200 feet and in black and white, true color, and false color infrared. There is no question that each of these products when used for a particular purpose has particular value. However, due to the plethora of scales, products and limited areas covered by each agency synoptic coverage of Montana at a common film scale during a short period of time is not available. Synoptic coverage would allow better use of products now available. The USGS in cooperation with the Forest Service will have complete coverage of Montana in 1978 at 1:80,000 black and white dating from 1973.

The Remote Sensing Subcommittee has met twice with another meeting scheduled for March 1, 1978. The topics discussed so far have included the following.

- (1) Availability of public facilities to house remote sensing products generated in the state where public agencies, private agencies, and citizens would have access to any of the stored material. The consensus of the committee is that the Photo Unit of the Montana Department of Highways will have both the space and the expertise to handle this function. The Photo Unit is handling black and white products and with additional equipment and one technician will be able to handle true color and color infrared.
- (2) This subcommittee has discussed the type of product that will be used most by end users. The consensus of the members is that color infrared photography is the product of choice. The time of year to best provide the most information would be "peak of green." The film scale is very important in determining the cost of this project. Scale also determines the number of end users that can use the product. 1:80,000 scale or larger can be done by private contractors and scales above 1:80,000 can be done by NASA.

Page 2
December 8, 1977

The major product of this subcommittee will be to develop a concrete proposal to be submitted to the RAD Executive Committee and ultimately the 1979 legislature concerning the costs and benefits to Montana by photographing the state at a common film scale with color infrared at "peak of green" and archiving these products in the Photo Unit of the Department of Highways. To this end we will be studying a number of different film products during our next meeting in order to firm up this proposal.

FINAL RESULTS

FRI. A.M.

LAND USE OPINIONNAIRE
1977 RAD Annual Meeting

as is

General Philosophy

Aesthetic
Preservation

___/___/___/↓/___/___/___/

Job Profits

Importance

L ___/___/___/___/↓/___/___/ H

Growth

Complete
Freedom

___/___/___/↓/___/___/___/

By Public Permission

L ___/___/___/___/↓/___/___/ H

Change Land Use

Owner
Freedom

___/___/↓/___/___/___/___/

Public Interference

L ___/___/___/___/↓/___/___/ H

Public Responsibility

Local
Government

___/___/___/↓/___/___/___/

State - Federal

L ___/___/___/___/↓/___/___/ H

Public Influence in Land Use

By
Law

___/___/___/↓/___/___/___/

Profit Incentives

L ___/___/___/___/↓/___/___/ H

The Taking Power

Pay
Value

___/___/___/↓/___/___/___/

Owner Losses

L ___/___/___/___/↓/___/___/ H

Zoning as Self Regulation

Liberal
Variances

___/↓/___/___/___/___/___/

Strict Adherence

L ___/___/___/___/↓/___/___/ H

Local Involvement in Planning

All Public
Decisions

___/___/___/↓/___/___/___/

Planners Decide to Sell

L ___/___/___/___/↓/___/___/ H

Effectiveness of Land Use Planning

Not
Effective

___/↓/___/___/___/___/___/

Very Effective

L ___/___/___/___/↓/___/___/ H

Effectiveness of Green Belt Legislation

Not
Effective

___/↓/___/___/___/___/___/

Very Effective

L ___/___/___/___/↓/___/___/ H

Zoning

Not
Effective

___/___/↓/___/___/___/___/

Very Effective

L ___/___/___/___/↓/___/___/ H

(Put any Additional Items on Back Side of Paper)

REMARKS OF LT. GOVERNOR TED SCHWINDEN AT THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE
MONTANA STATE RURAL AREAS DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
BILLINGS, DECEMBER 2, 1977

I am very pleased to have this opportunity to address the participants of the Montana State Rural Areas Development Committee.

There is little doubt that the key to Montana's future, and the way of life we cherish, is how we choose to use our air, water and land resources. The way we have used those resources in the past has determined what Montana is today. The way we use them today will determine what Montana is tomorrow. And, the urgency of the choices now before us is such that our choices today may very well determine what Montana is for many tomorrows.

Montana is the Nation's fourth largest state in land area. The country under the big sky encompasses over 93 million acres, or 145,651 square miles. Distributed over those many miles are only some 700,000 people -- and along with local, state and federal government agencies, they determine how the land, the water and the air are used.

Traditionally, Montanans have relied upon the land's rich natural resource base to provide jobs and income. Agriculture is -- and for a long time has been -- the number one industry in the state. Mining, oil and gas production, tourism and the timber industry are important economically and are directly dependent upon the use of the land.

This sketchy analysis of how the use of land is the key to Montana's economy ignores the major question that we in Montana -- and people everywhere -- must answer. That question is -- as the intensification of the use of the land increases at what has become an alarming rate -- what kind of a system can be developed to enable the people to make the choices that must be made? It is no longer possible to make easy decisions that a particular parcel of land is suitable only for a particular use.

For example, if there are minerals under the surface of land being used for agriculture, some people will want to develop those minerals in order to meet national or state needs and to provide jobs.

If there is a stream running through the land, some people will want to see the wild and free-flowing nature of that stream preserved, and some will want to see it reserved for municipal development.

Others will want to purchase a lot along the stream and build that dream home that so many of us have talked about from time to time.

Still others will want to impound the waters in the stream so that the land can be irrigated and its productivity increased.

As these simple examples illustrate, there are a number of choices that can be made in deciding how to use our land and our water. There is no simplistic approach to determining the relative importance to each of those choices, for all of them have validity . . . all of them are important to us. And our choices are complicated even further by established conditions.

Federal land management agencies administer nearly 20 percent of the total surface area in Montana. Indian reservations comprise over six percent of the total surface area. The State of Montana owns and administers more than 5 percent. The remainder is privately owned.

The non-federal owners of the land base use approximately 22 percent to produce crops. 66 percent is used for range and pasture. Eleven percent is used as woodlands. And one percent falls in the catch-all of "other lands," which includes such uses as farmsteads, private roads, feedlots, ditch banks, rural non-farm residences, mine wastes, borrow pits, and investment tracts.

But this inventory of non-federal surface uses of the land does not tell the whole story. Croplands, range and pasture land, and woodlands also provide important habitat for wildlife as well as recreational opportunities for everyone. The opportunity to hunt game and game birds is just one of the benefits associated with an agricultural and timber based economy.

Another land use activity that is not classified in the inventory I have just mentioned is the amount of subdivision activity that is taking place in Montana. This is a type of land use that seems to have a major impact on virtually every other type of land use activity. And as rural subdivision activity increases, either because of urban sprawl or recreational development, more and more agricultural land will be taken out of production and there will be direct impacts on wildlife habitat and the environmentally fragile areas along our lakes, streams and rivers.

To adequately assess the choices available to Montanans, however, it is also necessary to consider what lies below the surface of the land.

Mining is the second most significant economic industry in this state. For the future, it is mining, and especially the mining of coal, that will present the people of Montana with what may be the most important and controversial choices in our history.

The nation's energy crisis has focused attention on Montana's vast coal reserves. This strippable coal is located in 18 counties which comprise nearly one-fourth of the state's land area. And, as new technology is developed the potential for coal development is even greater. Total coal reserves in Montana are located in 35 of our 56 counties, and underlays 35 percent of the state's land area.

The time has come for Montanans to make the fundamental decision as to whether they want to control their own destiny or not. If we fail to act,

out-of-state interests -- including the federal government -- will make our land use decisions for us. If the people of this state want to preserve the rural way of life that makes Montana a unique place to live, then we must develop procedures for controlling those land use activities that will radically alter our lifestyle.

We must also be prepared to deal with those subtle land use changes that do not in themselves radically change our lifestyle, but which, when considered collectively, have enormous impact on the quality of life that we enjoy.

If we fail to act, the choices will not be ours to make. And the magnitude of those choices can be staggering. An expanded agricultural economy and full-scale energy development may not be compatible if there are insufficient land and water resources to permit both to occur. For the same reasons, we cannot have an expanded agricultural economy and full-scale rural subdivision development. We cannot have full-scale recreational subdivision development and maintain the wildlife and fish habitat that abounds in Montana. I believe that even the proponents of real estate development realize that if all of our scenic areas are subdivided, the effects on the value of the subdivision could be disastrous.

We cannot expand our timber industry, which is a vital part of our renewable-resource base, if the federal government does not provide realistic assistance in the proper management of our forests. We cannot preserve the natural beauty of this state without some controls.

Montana has a number of laws both for planning by cities and counties and for regulation of land use. Some of these laws simply permit planning or regulation, and others require that government perform specific actions. It is important to recognize that there is a difference between planning and regulation. Planning is a process through which resources are inventoried, evaluated, and used in exploring options for decisions. Regulation involves laws or rules which have been designed to achieve specific objectives -- such as zoning laws, floodplain management, and facility siting. In addition to regulation, Montana has other laws which affect land use by providing tax incentives for those who utilize their land in accordance with certain criteria which the law says reflect the public interest.

The need for careful development -- and tools such as planning and regulation to properly implement that development -- has never in our history been greater. The pressures on our resources will not only continue; they will rapidly increase, and with that increase comes the possibility of massive abuse of the land which could far exceed anything we have experienced in our past.

If we fail to accept the challenge of proper and careful development -- fail to respond with wisdom and prudence in degrees that have not been demanded before -- I believe that the quality of life in Montana will diminish and we will be in danger of becoming just like everywhere else. If we are lax -- or late -- in our land use decisions, I believe Montana will pay a heavy price, a price which in the future may prove to be far heavier than we want to pay.

If it is our desire as people to protect the high quality of livability which we find so meaningful, then we must adopt long range goals and make the necessary commitments to implement them. Those commitments require changing the patterns of the past, require unprecedented public involvement, require farsighted planning, influencing, and directing. We can no longer afford to react. We must act.

We know what we have been. We know what we are. We must now decide what we want to be.

Paper Presented by Verne House, Public Affairs Specialist
Cooperative Extension Service
At Annual Meeting of State Rural Areas Development Committee
Dec. 1 & 2, Billings, MT

EVOLUTION OF LAND USE AS AN ISSUE

As a public issue in the United States, land use has a long, exciting and sometimes depressing history. I need not recount a long history to make my point; however, I think six years will do. The point is that land use is simply a name given to a mixture of concerns and motivations; further, if we are to understand land use as an issue we need to know how the mixture is changing.

The last six years should demonstrate the point.

1971 - After several years in the wings, the way we use our land came again to center stage. What pushed land into the spotlight? The most important factor was that large scale developments of open land were obvious to the public and many of these ran "against the grain" of popular philosophy of wise use: eg. the recreational second homes snuggled up against parks, seashores and public forests and widespread use of land as an investment or a hedge against inflation raised questions about stewardship of the land. Also, there were major moves to the "Sunbelt" in the 60's and many housing developments there were found to be without legal foundation, ie: fraudulent.

These conditions called forth legislative efforts. The Congress designed national land use planning bills. State legislators talked of state level planning. Montana citizens were asking for education on planning, regulation and tax policies that could potentially affect land use.

By 1973, only two years later, the economic and political climate had changed dramatically:

(a) National land use planning legislation died in the trauma of Watergate.

(b) U.S. grain stocks were drawn down drastically by huge cash sales to Russia and China.

(c) The public was being told that farmland was being converted to other uses at the rate of one million acres per year and just extrapolate that, folks . . .!! And we were down to 21 days supply of food!

(d) The economy, weakened by recession, dried up a lot of speculative investment.

Results of these changes:

- 1st -- The market for rural condominiums and other recreational property shrunk.
- 2nd -- People feared that domestic food stocks were inadequate.
- 3rd -- Young people entered farming.
- 4th -- Farmland prices rose; machinery was harder to buy.
- 5th -- The term "prime land" was revived.
- 6th -- State-after-state adopted "greenbelt" type tax laws.
- 7th -- Montana's legislature encouraged more planning at the local level and strengthened land regulation.
- 8th -- Work on an agency-by-agency approach to planning began at the federal level.

Here we are in 1977, going on 1978; look how things have changed.

- 1st -- We survived the great toilet paper and anti-freeze shortages; the copper shortage flipped to unemployment in Anaconda.
- 2nd -- Fence-to-fence grain farming and reduced exports have reduced grain prices and dampened grain land prices to the point that many farmers are seeking public aid and some are talking strike.
- 3rd -- The current issue of Forbes magazine says the REIT's (Real Estate Investment Trusts) are coming back.
- 4th -- The hottest land related issue in Montana surrounds Indian jurisdiction over non-Indians and water.
- 5th -- There are several significant new federal laws -- the Renewable Resources Planning Act, the BLM Organic Act and acts for clean air and water.
- 6th -- Energy development impacts are very real in Montana.

If you feel I've over-stressed some factors or omitted significant ones, feel free to rewrite my history. However, I hope you will agree that land use remains an issue in this state. The point is that issues do evolve and if we are to continue working toward solutions then our understanding must also evolve.

STAFF NO. 77-23, DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS/ECONOMICS

LAND USE POLICIES, ALTERNATIVES & IMPLICATIONS

A. B. Linford, Montana State Rural Areas Development Meeting
Billings, Montana, December 1 and 2, 1977

The subject assigned to me for this conference is extremely complex. By its very nature it raises many questions in the minds of any serious and concerned group of citizens or individuals.

When we address the subject of best land use, we immediately must ask ourselves the questions of, By Whom; For Whom and For What? At this point, we begin to realize that the questions are more social than technical. The ethereal term of "quality of life" enters our thinking and we need to quantify and qualify how we expect natural resources to be used to support our standards of quality.

As a point of beginning, and a reason for concern related to land use, it may be well to apprise ourselves of the world situation and some fundamental dangers facing mankind. Few of us realize the magnitude or the seriousness of these dangers. Briefly stated they are: ^{1/}(A) Lack of food as a result of rapid population growth. (B) Depletion of the earth's natural resources (soil, minerals and fossil fuels) as a result of exponential consumption rate. (C) Contamination of nature through the introduction of noxious effluents.^{1/}

We live in a world where poverty is the rule. We are the exceptions. In the past three minutes 1,000 babies have been born, by tomorrow morning 200,000 more people will be on this earth. Total population today is estimated at 3.95 billion with UN projections of 6.5 to 7.0 billion in the year 2000, 22 years and 1 month from now. Solving the population problem is basic to any meaningful long-term solution of any problems related to land use. ~~We~~ We in Montana ~~are~~ are more aware of the other dangers of resource contamination and depletion and, no doubt, in a better position to do something about them.

I would like to limit the discussion in this paper to the situation in Montana and the consequences of some recent legislative actions. Also, to point out some alternatives to consider.

The policy making function of government is vested in the legislative branch. With the exception of federally owned lands, the decision of how land is used rests with each individual state. Traditionally, each state has acceded this responsibility to the local unit of government, county or city. Landowners and users have bought, sold, used, depleted or improved land as they saw fit with a minimum of governmental involvement. Governmental interest was limited, until recently to collecting taxes, recording deeds, and prosecuting trespassers.

More recently public concern has increased over environment and conserving agricultural lands, open spaces, shore lines; protecting wildlife habitat, estuaries and historical sites; and reducing pollution of lakes, streams and air. Other programs emphasize concern over urban sprawl, location of highways, and public utilities and improvement of public services.

The present national trend seems to lean toward piecemeal land use legislation such as the clean air act, clean water act, Coastal Zone Management Act, National Flood Control Programs, the National Environmental Quality Act and the recently passed strip mine bill. Other federal actions such as Presidential orders for protection of wetlands and agency policy memos are also in vogue.

Montana's experience in land use dates back to adoption of their constitution in October 1889 and their acceptance into the Union six weeks later as a State.

The original constitution included the right to "acquire, possess and protect property" along with the rights to free speech, assembly, religion, right of self government, the right to vote, right to bail, right to trial by jury and a provision guaranteeing the right to keep and bear arms.

The revised constitution ratified in 1972 added the provision of the right to a clean and healthful environment.

(Constitutional Provisions related to Land Use)

Some 5 Sections of the new constitution are related to land use--

- (1) The state and each citizen are directed to maintain and improve a clean and healthful environment; the legislature is directed to provide adequate remedies to protect the environment (Sec. 1)
- (2) All land disturbed by the taking of natural resources must be reclaimed (as provided by Section 2)
- (3) Water rights are given constitutional recognition; all water is declared to be the property of the state for the use of its people (Section 2)
- (4) The legislature is directed to provide for identification and preservation of the state's cultural and historical resources
- (5) Constitutional protection of investment of public school fund and constitutional status for the Board of Land Commissioners. Constitutional direction is provided for holding and disposing of public lands (Sections 2,3,4, and 11.)

- (6) Eminent Domain: Private property shall not be taken or damaged for public use without just compensation to the full extent of the loss having been first made to or paid into court for the owner. In the event of litigation, just compensation shall include necessary expenses of litigation to be awarded by the court when the private property owner prevails.
- (7) Cultural Resources: The legislature shall provide for the identification, acquisition, restoration, enhancement, preservation, and administration of scenic, historic, archeologic, scientific, cultural, and recreational areas. Sites, records and objects, and for their use and enjoyment by the people.
- (8) Public Land Trust, Disposition
- (1) All lands of the state that have been or may be granted by congress, or acquired by gift or grant or devise from any person or corporation, shall be public lands of the state. They shall be held in trust for the people, to be disposed of as hereafter provided for the respective purposes for which they have been or may be granted, donated, or
- (2) No such land or any estate or interest therein shall ever be disposed of except in pursuance of general laws providing for such disposition, or until the full market value of the estate or interest disposed of, to be ascertained in such manner as may be provided by law, has been paid or safely secured to the state.

- (3) No land which the state holds by grant from the United States which prescribes the manner of disposal and minimum price shall be disposed of except in the manner and for at least the price prescribed without the consent of the United States.
- (4) All public land shall be classified by the board of land commissioners in a manner provided by law. Any public land may be exchanged for other land, public or private, which is equal in value and, as closely as possible, equal in area.^{3/}

In 1915, Montana enacted a law permitting the establishment of rural improvement districts by county governments outside of cities and towns "for the purpose of building, constructing and maintaining devices intended to protect the safety of the public from open ditches carrying irrigation or other water, sanitary and storm sewers, light systems, waterwork plants, water systems, sidewalks, and such other special improvements as may be petitioned for." Last amendment 1961

Montana was one of the first states in the West to recognize the need for cooperative effort to regulate grazing and improve rangelands in 1931. Now administered by the Department of Natural Resources.

This was benchmark legislation and had significant influence nationally on other legislation such as Public Law 46, which provided for a federal program of technical assistance to conservation districts throughout the country.

Another federal law having to do with conservation about this time was the Taylor Grazing Act of 1936.

In 1939, Montana legislature enacted two laws, pertaining to conservation and land use on agricultural lands. The Soil Conservation Districts Law which provided for the creation of Soil Conservation Districts and the Montana Grass Conservation Act which provides for the establishment of cooperative state grazing districts.

Other rural districts for providing irrigation and drainage to lands were established by the legislature, administered by special purpose boards and are widespread throughout the state.

Of interest is the amendment of the drainage law of 1949 to add the purposes of "flood prevention and conservation development utilization and disposal of water" to make the act applicable to and a vehicle for carrying out Public Law 566, the Small Watershed Act.

Montana has a water quality act and an air quality act administered by the State Department of Health and Environmental Sciences.

Montana Standards are equal to or exceed federal air and water quality standards and cover all waters in the state.

Recent Legislation

Since the early 60's, many significant laws pertaining to Land Use have been passed by the Montana State legislature and assigned to various state agencies and departments for administration.

Most significant of these are:

The stream preservation act prohibiting the alteration of live stream banks by state or federal agencies without a permit and plan approval from the State Fish and Game Department. This now applies to all private lands.

A Conservancy District Law passed in 1966 and administered by the Department of Natural Resources & Conservation--this is permissive and allows for water development project development on a large scale--purposes include flood control, drainage, recreation development and all beneficial water uses. Attempts to utilize this law have been less than successful to date.

It is my belief that the legislation Montana has passed to maintain environmental quality is working effectively to preserve water and air quality and prevent pollution. On the other hand, it is evident to even the most casual observer that efforts to retain land in agricultural or open space leaves much to be desired. Recognizing that the situation differs throughout the state, it is evident that we are losing agricultural lands at an accelerating rate in many areas.

In Gallatin County for example, in 1967 we carried 898,695 acres of land in agricultural use on our tax records. On January 1, 1977, this acreage had been reduced by 103,667 acres to 795,028 acres or by 10.4% in a ten year period. Suburban tracts amounted to 7158 acres in 1967 and increased to 25,000 acres in 1977. Agricultural land losses have accelerated to 2% a year in the last 4 years. While I have not been able to review figures in other counties, I believe that one-fourth of Montana counties have a situation similar to Gallatin--

In my opinion, the rural zoning legislation we have passed, which increases minimum lot sizes to 20 acres, has been a failure and has committed much of our best agricultural lands to urban use

in addition to placing unnecessary burdens on rural schools, roads, and police protection.

Agricultural lands in Montana are taxed on the basis of productivity. All other property is classified on the basis of market or sale price. While preferential assessment is considered to be the simplest approach to preservation of farm land, it comes off second best in Montana to the market even with 20 acre parcels in many instances.

While we have a good record in Montana in passing environmental legislation, we do not have a comprehensive land use policy or a coordinated approach to land use. There appear to be many unresolved conflicts in legislation and administration--

Land use policy is the expression of how the resource land, is used. It refers to the total of all those national, state, and local laws, ordinances, and attitudes affecting short-term or long-term uses of land, private or public, through the mechanisms of ownership, inheritance, taxation, condemnation, zoning, redevelopment, building regulation master planning, and legislative fiat. ~~44~~

Questions we must ask ourselves:

- (1) Can private uses of land be controlled for public benefits and purposes?
- (2) Does the owner of open or rural land have the right to a monetary profit from unearned increments due to location and population growth?

If our goal is preservation of agriculture, many tools are available, each with differing impacts. The problem is to attain the proper mix to achieve the objectives of financial feasibility and political acceptability.

A brief discussion of land use planning tools seems to be in order.

Market System

Despite the many tools designed by legislatures to protect land and preserve its unique qualities the individual land owner still makes most of the decisions concerning land. He purchases land in the open market and puts it to the use he desires.

Characteristics are:

1. Use yields to the interest of the highest bidder.
2. Works well when land is abundant.
3. Where demand for land increases, extensive uses (agriculture and open space) are outbid by more intensive uses (residential and industrial).
4. The concept assumes that the highest and best economic use will also be the best social and environmental use.
5. As land is bid up for "higher" uses "better" land is purchased first, resulting in lack of orderly growth and in situations such as isolated open space, land locked farms, etc.

Existing conditions may require a significant alteration of policy.

1. Demand for land is acute.
2. Social and environmental limitations are increasingly understood and accepted.

3. Lands impact on society is evident and increasing.
4. There appears to be no effective land ethic, save economic motivation, to guide individual land owners in deciding the use of their land.
5. Property tax structure seems to reinforce the highest and best use concept.

Public Acquisition

We can buy the land through government to preserve that which we deem as important or essential. The United States government has claimed land it deemed necessary to preserve national character and integrity since the late 19th century. Public acquisition has the following good and bad points:

1. The most direct, effective method of controlling land use,
2. The most expensive,
3. Due to cost it has limited application,
4. Condemnation for all but essential uses is now less accepted than before,
5. Public purchase reduces property tax revenues.

Easements

A less costly but less effective method is the public purchase of one or more of the ownership rights but less than fee title. Effective for development of right of ways across private land to allow public access to fishing areas, scenic views and to maintain open space.

By using easements:

1. Public acquires only that specific interest it needs, the land owner retains his interest and control over the remaining rights,
2. Purchase of easements can be by payment, reduction in taxes, or other consideration,
3. Land remains on tax roles and public maintenance is usually not required.

Taxation

The power and methods of taxing becoming a tool or mechanism of resource management as well as a way of raising revenues.

Tax Deferrals

Montana

In 1957, Montana enacted a law classifying all lands in the State. Agricultural land was graded and each grade was assessed using a rate determined by the State board of equalization. Montana enacted a deferred tax law in 1973.

Eligibility

Land will be eligible for valuation according to its productive capacity each year it meets the following qualifications: (1) it is actively devoted to agriculture, and (2) it is either at least 5 acres in size, and the gross value of its production is at least \$1,000 per year, or it produces at least 15 percent of the owner's income. The owner must apply (Montana Session Laws, Chap. 512, § 4).

Valuation

Land which the county assessor has determined to be in agricultural use will be valued according to its productive capacity (Revised Code of

of Montana, § 84-401) and not according to the best and highest use of neighboring lands (§ 84-429.12.1). The State department of revenue will provide a general and uniform method of classifying lands. Each class of land will be graded according to its soil and productive capacity (§ 84-429.12).

Deferred Tax

Once land has been valued and taxed under this law, and its use is changed, then it will be liable for a roll-back tax for up to the preceding 4 years (MSL, Chap. 512, § 6). The amount of the roll-back is determined by multiplying the full and fair value of the land, as reclassified according to its new use, by the number of years in the roll-back and applying the assessment ratio against that product. The resulting figure is multiplied by the average mill levy for the years included in the roll-back period, and the taxes actually paid are then subtracted from it (§ 6) to give the amount of the roll-back tax. 5

General Preferential Assessment

Under the preferential assessment approach, assessment of land which is actively used for farming shall be based only on the value of the land for its farm use and shall not include any value attributable to possible urban use. Preferential assessment laws in general are considered the simplest approach to the preservation of farm land. Even so they do raise difficulties. A major problem arises in attempting to define just what land should qualify for preferential assessment. Problems arise also in arriving at true farm values when real estate in the area actually is selling for nonfarm values.

Restrictive Agreements

Again, the land is valued and taxes assessed comparable to the preferential assessment program.

1. Entry into a restrictive agreement program requires voluntary application by the landowner. By making application and being approved, the landowner enters into an agreement with local government stipulating that the land will remain in its current use for some specified time--usually ten years.

2. If the landowner wishes to withdraw from the program he must pay a rollback tax, comparable to the deferred tax program, plus a penalty, usually some percentage of the rollback tax. The rationale behind the penalty is that the objective of the program is to preserve agricultural land in the public, not private, interest. Therefore, if the land is converted out of agricultural or other approved use, the public is entitled to compensation for the loss.

Agricultural Districts

Ideas for permitting the formation of agricultural districts in New York State were developed by farm organizations and other persons and agencies interested in agriculture. An amendment to the Agriculture and Markets Law was passed in 1971 to permit formation of agricultural districts.

Agricultural districts provide the following incentives for continued farming within them:

1. Farmland will be taxed on the basis of its value for farming if the farmer qualifies and makes an annual request for this treatment.

2. Local ordinances cannot restrict structures and activities normal to farming except for health and safety.
3. Any taking of farmland by a public body requires special justification.
4. Farmland, beyond a house and lot, cannot be taxed for sewer and water unless so taxed before the district was formed.
5. It is declared state policy, that state agencies must modify administrative regulations to encourage maintenance of commercial farming in the districts.

Substantial tax advantages could accrue to the farming community as a result of agricultural district formation, yet it is not likely that this provision will reduce the taxes farmers have been paying in the past. It is likely, however, that this provision will reduce farmers' taxes below what they would otherwise pay in the future.

The tax provision of the agricultural district law thus will not likely take much assessed value off the active rolls, but it could reduce the tax additions placed on farm land. At the same time, the districts will also bring some savings in public service expenditures. It is cheaper to provide water, sewer, schools, police protection, and the like when people live near one another, and the agricultural districts will reduce scatteration development.

The prohibition of ordinances that limit manure spreading, spraying and dusting, nighttime and holiday operations of farm machinery, and other activities normal to farming but objectionable to some nearby nonfarm residents, will discourage people who object to farming activities from locating new homes in the districts.

The restriction on the taking of land in the districts by a public body is not an absolute limitation--the land still can be taken. This provision simply assures that public bodies consider agriculture in making their final decisions on land taking in the districts. They will be required to give thorough consideration to alternatives.

Regional Tax Sharing

A second type of property tax related program, regional tax base sharing, is currently being attempted in Minnesota. Local jurisdictions often compete for an increased tax base through "fiscal zoning." Regional tax base sharing works to reduce the incentive of local jurisdictions to increase their local tax base.

Under the Minnesota law every unit of government in the seven-county, Minneapolis-St. Paul region receives a share of any growth in the commercial-industrial tax base of the entire region. The law works entirely within the present framework of local government with each locality continuing to make its own policy decisions on levying property taxes. Each community continues to have its own tax base and loses none of the tax base it had as of 1972. However, beginning in 1973, any new valuation or increase in a community's commercial-industrial tax base will be split into two parts: 60 percent will remain in the community and 40 percent will be placed in a regional tax pool. The regional tax pool will then be redistributed to all the communities on the basis of population, weighted to assist communities with below-average property valuation per capita.

If, for example, a new shopping center is built in a suburb of Minneapolis, the suburb would retain 60 percent of the assessed valuation and the remaining 40 percent would be distributed among the region's other taxing districts according to a formula based on population and need. Any noncommercial-industrial tax base growth, such as residential property taxes, will remain exclusively with the governmental unit where the property is located. The net result of this program is to let everyone share in any commercial-industrial growth anywhere within the region, thereby reducing the need for "fiscal zoning" by individual communities to augment their local tax base. ^{6/}

Lease, Purchase, or Transfer of Development Rights

According to law and established practice, if a governmental entity wants a parcel of land for public purposes it has to pay a fair price for it. The Fifth Amendment to the Constitution says "...nor shall private property be taken for public use without just compensation." If government declares it is in the public interest to "preserve open space" and says you may continue to own your land, but you may not build anything on it, nor may anyone you might sell it to build on it, the land may not have been "taken," but some of its value has been eliminated.

The transfer of development rights is a new technique to help solve this fundamental dilemma without violating basic rights and due process as guaranteed under the Constitution.

The basic process is initiated when the municipality designates an area of open space and prohibits development therein. Landowners in the preserved areas may sell their rights to further development to

other landowners or builders who wish to develop those areas where development is allowed.

The net effect is the preservation of socially or environmentally important areas with equitable compensation for the owners. There is no cost to the taxpayers since no acquisition by government is involved. And at the same time the housing needs of a growing population can continue to be met.

In a similar vein, development rights can be purchased directly. Efforts can be made to persuade individuals to dedicate certain development rights on large tracts of land in return for approval of intense development of a small percentage of the land. In this type of program a rancher could supplement his income by partial development while keeping the major part of his land in agricultural open-space. A public trust could also be established to receive land worthy of preservation; this may provide substantial tax benefits to persons transferring the land as a gift to a public institution. There are a number of other possible combinations of approaches that can be used to obtain some public use of private land.^{6/}

Transportation and Power

Public Utilities--This is an often overlooked mechanism for controlling land use. Public utilities are usually considered as being impacted by land use rather than impacting such decisions. Some communities and even some states attempt to direct growth commensurate with the community's ability to provide facilities such as fire protection, schools, water, and sewer. The idea is that people settle in

relation to services particularly roads and power. By locating facilities you direct and control the uses of land.

1. A fairly effective land use mechanism in a dynamic situation changing from rural to urban,
2. Difficult to control wind fall profits of those owning land in developing areas,
3. Legally a grey area,
4. To be effective plans must be comprehensive and well thought out.

Zoning Districts in Montana

Under the law providing for formation of zoning districts, zoning regulations are developed in accordance with a comprehensive development plan. Their purposes are several--to lessen traffic congestion, to enhance safety, to promote health and general welfare to prevent overcrowding, and to facilitate the provision of adequate transportation, water sewage, parks, schools, and other public need.

Subdivision Regulations

When land is divided for resale, the law requires that it be surveyed, plotted (mapped with proposed features) and submitted for the approval of the appropriate representative of the public interest. Counties, as well as cities, are required to adopt subdivision regulations.

One requirement is that either a portion of the plotted area (in addition to streets, highways, and alleys) or its equivalent in money must be designated for public parks and playgrounds.

County Planning and Zoning Districts

Zoning can be effected through zoning districts or through county planning and zoning districts. The latter differs from zoning districts in that the latter must be based on a comprehensive plan. The combining of planning and zoning activities together under this law does not recognize the other ways of using planning information.

County planning and zoning districts can be initiated by the landowners for any unzoned area of at least 40 acres.

Historically, the most widely used tool for land use control has been zoning. While zoning has been more or less effective in the urban area, it has been much less effective in preserving agricultural land.

In some cases, zoning works more to the detriment than the benefit of agriculture. The lure of increased tax base through urban development has, in many cases, been more persuasive than the abstract idea of maintaining the integrity of an agricultural area.

Zoning is often controversial because of the restrictions it imposes on land use, ordinarily without compensation to the landowners. In some cases zoning may require that the land be maintained in one use when it would be financially advantageous to the owner to convert the land to some other use. It should be emphasized that there is no one model ordinance of general acreage limitation or minimum lot size that will satisfy the needs of all areas; what is right for one area may not be appropriate for another. The intensity of agricultural land use must be considered.

The effects of zoning, are therefore multiple. Owners of farm land lose the value of development rights on their land as long as the zoning remains in force. Nonfarm residents receive the benefits of farm land as open space without payment to the suppliers of the space.

To date, most exclusive agricultural zoning has been accomplished by local government units. Only the state of Hawaii has set up exclusive agricultural districts on a statewide basis. Local governments practice their zoning power under the authority of a state planning enabling law. ^{6/}

Environmental Impact Statements

The Montana Environmental Policy Act requires environmental impact evaluations for proposed projects that would significantly affect the human environment. Statements include the environmental impact, unavoidable adverse effects, alternatives, long- and short-term considerations, and irreversible commitments of natural resources.

Administered by Montana Council of Environmental Quality

Strip-Mine Reclamation

The strip-mine reclamation act is intended to minimize the environmental degradation which accompanies this method of mining. The law cited above contains a bonding requirement to ensure that monies for recalculation will be available. Some companies operate under the earlier law which does not have this requirement. Miners must contract with the State Lands Department for permission to begin open-cut or strip-mines. The contract, which is a standard

form as specified in the legislation, requires that a detailed reclamation plan be submitted and approved by the State Lands Department before mining operations begin.

A companion act "The Strip Mine Siting Act" was passed by the 1974 legislature.

Other legislation was passed in 1974 related to mining entitled "Open Cut Mining Act."

The 1973 legislature passed a Utility Siting Act dealing with power plant siting and transmission line siting administered by the Department of Natural Resources & Conservation with funding provided by the utility requesting the permit.

The 1974 legislature also passed "A Natural Areas" Act also administered by the State Lands Department and facetiously referred to as "Montana's Wilderness Act."

In 1972, the Soil Conservation Society of America developed a policy statement on land use which was adopted by the Montana Association of Conservation Districts and submitted to the state legislature. It passed the House but was defeated in the Senate where a resolution was adopted requesting the State Council on Environmental Quality to develop proposed land use legislation.

As time progressed, we have moved progressively from voluntary action to a period of regulation. First of all, those regulations imposed by the federal government in management of public lands. Later on, federal laws related to health and water quality--still later on, wilderness, Scenic Rivers, Archeologic Sites, Rare and Endangered Species.

These were followed by state land use regulations beginning with health and water quality, followed by stream bank regulations planning and zoning, natural areas, strip mine regulations, plant and transmission line siting and many others.

Proposed legislation pertaining to Scenic Areas, Sediment and Pollution Control indicate the direction to which we are moving.

The present concern for self-sufficiency in energy is bringing further pressures on land to states like Montana.^{7/}

Concluding Statement

Research is needed to help local officials decide how much land should be reserved and planned for schools and churches, transportation, open spaces, playgrounds, outdoor recreation, parks, hunting and fishing, pollution dispersal and control, and the many other essentials required for a quality environment. Overriding all is a need to further intensify our forecasts of land acreages required for production of food and fiber.

Landowners should continue to exercise their inherent right to use their land and associated resources. However, landowners should recognize that the exercise of this right carries a great responsibility to consider the overall impact on the public and the environment.

We must recognize the importance of the property tax structure and its influence on land use and make provisions for adjustments in valuation of land for taxation. Recognition should be made of lands used for agricultural, wildlife, recreational, aesthetic, or other uses of significant interest and importance to the general public.

Changes in land use--especially the conversion of prime agricultural lands to non-agricultural uses--should be made only after adequate studies of the ecologic, economic, and social effects on the total population and environment.

Land in public ownership, should be accessible to fill the public need for recreation, aesthetics and environmental enjoyment. Such lands should be managed so as to maintain the most logical balance between public use and adequate protection of the soil, water, plant, and animal resources.

All citizens should be provided adequate information to acquaint them with the potentials and opportunities basic to proper land use. Land use policies and plans, to be truly effective, evolve only through citizen understanding and participation.

References Cited

- (1) Bertrand, Anson R. "Population Pressures and Living Standards in the Year 2000 AD--" Paper Soil Conservation Society of America Conference, July, 1976.
- (2) Frenlin, John. 1972 Be Fruitful and Multiply. Hart David, London. 82-83, 106-110.
- (3) Montana State Constitution 1972.
- (4) USDA Secretaries Memorandum No. 1827, October 26, 1973.
- (5) Ag Economic Report #256 Apr. 1974. USDA 43-44.
- (6) William H. Gray, "Methods of Agricultural Land Preservation" February, 1975--Area Extension Agent, Wash. State University, Pullman.
- (7) A.B. Linford, "Land Use in Montana" Regional USDA Land Use Workshop Omaha, Nebraska, September 16, 1974.

MONTANA STATE RURAL AREAS DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

APPENDIX 1

January 5, 1976/7

TO: All Members of the House and Senate Committees on Finance and Claims

FR: Torlief S. Aasheim, Chairman
Montana State Rural Areas Development Committee

RE: Matters requiring legislative action which are supported by the
Montana State Rural Areas Development Committee

This letter is for the purpose of advising you concerning certain matters which the State Rural Areas Development Committee has considered in detail and support unanimously. We ask your support in providing funding and supporting legislation which will provide for these positions and this act.

1. Extension Forester

The Montana Cooperative Extension Service has been without an Extension Forester for many years. Funding for this position has been requested several times, but funds have not been provided. The State Association of Conservation Districts supports the filling of this position as does the Soil Conservation Service, the Forest Service, the State Foresters Office and the Montana Woodland Council.

The Extension Forester will conduct an educational program that includes forest ecology, forest inventory and forest economics. He will be primarily concerned with providing information to small private forest landowners who need educational assistance. He will also work with professional foresters and users of products in establishing reasonable and good forest land management practices.

2. Extension Veterinarian

The Montana Stockgrowers, Montana Pork Producers, Montana Woolgrowers and the Montana Dairymen support the funding of such a position. The personnel of the Montana Veterinary Research Laboratory and practicing veterinarians also support the establishment of this position.

The Veterinarian will develop an educational program emphasizing preventive medicine in beef, swine, dairy, sheep, poultry, horses and companion animals. Primary attention will be given to disease and health management problems of range and confined livestock. Examples of diseases that are important to Montana livestock industries are: calf scours, weak calf syndrome, brucellosis, baby pig diseases, rabies, mastitis, respiratory infections, toxicities and deficiency disease, several abortion diseases and many others.

3. Extension Dairy Specialist

Since the time that the Montana Legislature ordered that the Montana Cooperative Extension Service should employ a full-time Swine Specialist, the Extension Service has been without a Dairy Specialist. The individual now serving as Swine Specialist formerly served as one half-time specialist in hogs and one half-time in dairy. The Montana Milk Producers are now requesting a full-time Dairy Specialist.

The Dairy Specialist will provide education in overall herd management, cattle selection, feeding and nutrition, and milking management. He will also work with the Extension Agricultural Engineer on housing and equipment. He will be expected to provide special assistance to the 280 Grade A and 57 Grade B producers in an attempt to keep them operating on an economic level in order to provide a consistent flow of milk to consumers in Montana.

4. K.E.E.P.

The Montana Cooperative Extension Service has been administering an adult education program for the past five years which has been funded in the past by a grant of \$820,000 from the Kellogg Foundation and \$32,000 in State appropriated funds. The Kellogg funds will be spent (according to plan) at the end of 1977 and in order to continue this program, State funding will be required. The \$32,000 provided by the last legislature resulted in our \$200,000 in new funds from the Kellogg Foundation.

The State Rural Areas Development Committee requested \$228,000 in State funds to continue this program for a period of 2 more years. Participants in this program have given a most enthusiastic support for this program.

5. Economic Development Association of Eastern Montana (E.D.A.E.M.)

In the past, two area Extension Agents have been assigned to assist the Economic Development Association of Eastern Montana to develop regional leadership required to initiate social and economic improvement programs. In addition, special assistance has been given to individual county organizations directly involved with community development efforts. The positions have been funded largely with restricted Federal funds. This past year, however, it became necessary to terminate one of the staff positions because no State support was provided. It will be necessary to cancel the remaining position in FY 1977-78 unless State funds are provided to support the project. Continued Federal support is projected at \$13,500. At this level, it will require \$17,657 the first year of the biennium, and \$19,500 the second year to continue the program.

The State RAD Executive Committee has been impressed with the work of E.D.A.E.M. and urge funding one agent position.

6. Dairy Marketing Act

This Act, if passed, will create a Dairy Marketing Committee along the lines of the already existing Wheat Commission and the Pork Research and Marketing Committee. It will NOT be funded by general taxation. Funding will come from a one percent assessment on the dollar value of milk sold by milk producers. Producers who do not desire to participate may secure refunds of their assessments.

Section 7. Assessments. (1) Beginning July 1, 1977, there is hereby assessed upon the producer a levy of one percent of the gross dollar daily or monthly settlements for the sale of all milk and cream produced in the State of Montana and sold or contracted for sale through commercial channels, which assessment shall be due on or before the time when such milk or cream is first sold or contracted for sale in commercial channels, and it shall be paid by the first purchaser or producer-handler to the Department of Agriculture not later than the 25th day of the month next succeeding the month in which the milk or cream is sold or contracted for sale in commercial channels.

Section 9. Persons required to remit assessments--Dairy products research and marketing account. (1) the assessment levied in this act shall be remitted by the first purchaser or producer-handler to the Department of Agriculture for deposit in the dairy products research and marketing account.

7. Wildlife Specialists

Ask continuation of the support for a Wildlife Specialist at the University of Montana and Montana State University. These positions have been funded largely through the Department of Fish & Game for nearly twenty years and now there seems to be some reluctance on the part of the Fish & Game Department to continue funding these two positions.

Wildlife Specialists are relatively independent of policy commitments to any one group or agency and can continue to provide a valuable educational service by developing programs which create public awareness of wildlife research and issues and which promote inter-agency communication.

The Wildlife Subcommittee of the State Rural Areas Development Committee unanimously support the continuation of these two positions and request that they be fully funded by the State Department of Fish & Game.

We ask that you give your support in any way you can to have these two positions funded by the Department of Fish and Game.

The State Rural Areas Development Executive Committee currently consists of:

Gordon Twedt--Farmer-Rancher and businessman, Great Falls & Rudyard.
Harvey Bryan--Businessman, Wolf Point.
Dick Setterstrom--Retired Industrial Engineer, Montana Power Co., Butte.
Bernard Harkness--Rancher and President of Montana Farm Bureau Federation, Dell.
Jack Iman--Farmer-Rancher and President of the Montana Grange, Victor.
Clyde Jarvis--Past President of Montana Farmers Union, Great Falls.
Polly Prchal--City Government, Billings.
Bob LeProwse--U.S. Plywood, Bonner.
Keith Williams--Agricultural Representative, Montana Power Co., Billings.
Torlief S. Aasheim--Retired Montana State University and State RAD Committee Chairman, Bozeman.

Thank you for your consideration. I would appreciate being advised of hearings when these matters are being discussed.

APPENDIX 2

January 5, 1977

TO: All Members of Montana State University Presidential Search and Screening Committee

FR: Torlief Aasheim, Chairman
Montana State Rural Areas Development Committee

RE: Selection of President for Montana State University

At the Annual Meeting of the State Rural Areas Development Committee which was held on December 9 and 10, the Executive Committee reviewed the criteria for selection of the person to succeed Dr. Carl McIntosh.

The Executive Committee felt that the criteria were very inclusive, but instructed me to write to you as a member of the Selection Committee, asking that you give special emphasis to the criteria of Extension and public service. The Executive Committee members agreed unanimously that the President of Montana State University should have a strong interest in serving the public of Montana--off campus as well as on campus.

Members of the State Rural Areas Development Committee are: Keith Williams, Agricultural Representative for Montana Power, Billings; Bernard Harkness, President, Montana Farm Brueau Federation, Dell; Jack Iman, President, Montana Grange, Victor; Dick Setterstrom, Former Development Engineer, Montana Power Company, Butte; Clyde Jarvis, Former President, Montana Farmer's Union, Great Falls; Robert LeProwse, U.S. Plywood, Bonner; Gordon Twedt, Farmer-Rancher-Motel Operator, Great Falls; Harvey Bryan, Businessman, Wolf Point; Polly Prchal, City Government, Billings, and Torlief S. Aasheim, Chairman.

This suggestion is offered in the spirit of helpfulness to those of you who have been assigned to this very important committee.

MONTANA WOODLAND COUNCIL SUBCOMMITTEE
RECOMMENDATIONS ON OPERATION OF
THE STATE FOREST TREE NURSERY

Woodland Council Subcommittee: John Bruns, Chairman
Jane Berry
Gary Brown
Walt Fillmore
Hal Hunter

Having met with the Montana Association of Nurserymen and received their responses to the Woodland Council Report on the State Forest Tree Nursery it is clear there is no support for closure of the nursery by them. Their primary concerns, as we understand them, are unfair price competition and misuse of woody plant material intended to serve only conservation purposes. The recommendations developed for consideration by the Montana Woodland Council address several of their concerns.

The subcommittee recommends the following items for consideration and follow-up by the council as courses of action that parties involved in the production, use or administration of programs that encourage the use of trees and shrubs for conservation purposes should take. We believe the implementation of these recommendations is essential to maintain or strengthen the conservation use of trees and shrubs in Montana and to foster close working relationships among all parties involved.

1. The Department of Natural Resources and Conservation should investigate opportunities to reduce competition with private nurserymen in the sale of seedling planting stock for conservation purposes and for use in establishing Christmas tree plantations. The subcommittee feels that price adjustments can be made without significant discouragement of the use of trees and shrubs for conservation purposes. We further recommend that the Department consider the elimination of tree seedling sales for use in Christmas tree plantations.

The Department of Natural Resources and Conservation should allow for the adjustment in price of planting stock being offered by the State Forest Tree Nursery to make it comparable to that of private nurseries producing bare-root seedling stock.

The Department of Natural Resources and Conservation should cease sale of trees for use in establishing Christmas tree plantations.

2. Provisions should be enacted by the State Legislature to allow expansion of State Forest Tree Nursery Programs to include: (1) Equipment development to meet nursery and conservation planting needs, (2) The testing of herbicides for weed control and the development of effective application techniques for nurseries and conservation plantings, (3) Active participation in tree or shrub improvement and introduction programs.

3. As an expression of interest in servicing the market for woody conservation plant materials, the subcommittee recommends that the Montana Association of Nurserymen insure that catalogs be made available to all BCS, Extension Service, Conservation District, and Division of Forestry offices detailing the kind and quantities of plant material available and the cost per volume unit.

Woodland Council Subcommittee
Recommendations on Operation

2

4. To reduce criticism concerning the improper use of trees and shrubs for conservation purposes the subcommittee recommends that the SCS, Division of Forestry, Forest Service, Extension Service, Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service, Montana Association of Conservation Districts, and the Montana Association of Nurserymen review agency policies and organizational arrangements to insure that programs encouraging the use of woody plant materials are not being abused or causing unnecessary competition to private nurserymen.

5. To offset the potential impacts of the recommended program adjustments, all agencies involved in the production and use of woody plant materials or in the administration of programs encouraging the use of woody plant materials for conservation purposes should develop a coordinated program encouraging greater use of woody plant materials for conservation purposes.

6. A standing subcommittee of the Montana Woodland Council should be appointed to monitor the use of woody plant materials for conservation purposes and be instructed to report to the Montana Woodland Council annually. This subcommittee could act as the coordinating body (actions subject to the approval of the Woodland Council) for conservation programs involving the use of woody plant materials in Montana.

MONTANA STATE RURAL AREAS DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

APPENDIX 4

February 8, 1977

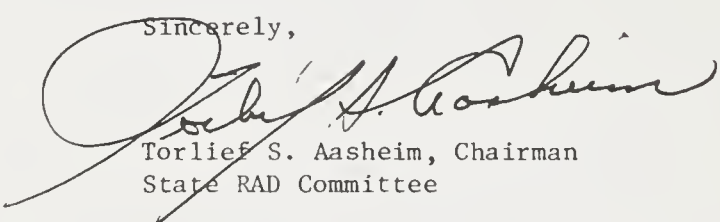
Jane Barry
Executive Secretary
Montana Association of Nurserymen
Box 1871
Bozeman, MT 59715

Dear Mrs. Barry:

You were at our Rural Areas Development (RAD) Executive Committee meeting in Helena on February 2 while we discussed matters pertaining to the operation of the State Forest Nursery at Missoula. Since you were there, you are familiar with the actions taken but this letter is to confirm that action and for your use as you see it in communicating with Montana Nurserymen.

- 1) The RAD Executive Committee went on record as not supporting House Bill 597.
- 2) The RAD Executive Committee went on record as supporting a price increase of nursery stock distributed from the State Forest Nursery so as to become more nearly competitive with the prices asked by private nurseries in Montana. The Committee also went on record as supporting and encouraging the idea that the State Forest Nursery be granted permission to conduct research which pertains to tree planting and growing in the state.

Sincerely,



Torlief S. Aasheim, Chairman
State RAD Committee

cc: Hal Hunter
John Bruns
Walt Fillmore
Gary Brown
Gary Moon
Donald Wood
Bob LeProwse
Dick Setterstrom
Jim DeBree
John Orth

APPENDIX 5

February 8, 1977

Congressman Ron Marlenee
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Mr. Marlenee:

On October 18, 1974, the 93rd Congress enacted and extended the Sikes Act to include National Forest Lands. This Act authorized funds to carry out wildlife and fisheries conservation and rehabilitation programs.

The Act directs the Secretary of Agriculture, in cooperation with state agencies, to develop a comprehensive plan to be implemented on public lands under his jurisdiction. The Montana Department of Fish and Game and Region I of the Forest Service have entered into a cooperative agreement and completed the comprehensive plan on December 16, 1976. This plan provides for significant wildlife and fisheries habitat improvements within the State of Montana. Funds to accomplish the goals and objectives stated are essential for these important resources.

The Executive Committee of the State Rural Areas Development Committee met in Helena on February 2 and passed a resolution as follows pertaining to this act:

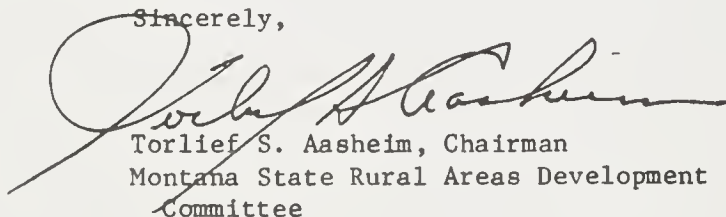
"Be it resolved that the Montana Congressional Delegation initiate and support federal appropriations at Congressional hearings to be held in Washington, D.C. during March, 1977."

In case you are not familiar with the State Rural Areas Development Committee, it is a Committee composed of a cross-section of 150 Montana people. The Committee has been in existence since 1961 and has twelve Sub-committees, one of which is a Wildlife Sub-committee. The Executive Committee has ten members--they are:

Bernard Harkness, President of the Montana Farm Bureau; Keith Williams, Agricultural Representative for the Montana Power Company; Harvey Bryan, Businessman from Wolf Point; Gordon Twedt, Farmer and Businessman from Great Falls and Rudyard; Dick Setterstrom, Former Industrial Engineer for Montana Power Company (now retired); Bob LeProwse, U.S. Plywood, Bonner; Clyde Jarvis, Former President of Montana Farmer's Union; Mrs. Polly Prchal, City Government, Billings; Jack Iman, President of the Montana Grange; and myself as Chairman.

Thank you for consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,



Torlief S. Aasheim, Chairman
Montana State Rural Areas Development
Committee

cc: Harry McNeal
James O. DeBree

517 West Koch
Bozeman, Montana 59715
May 16, 1977

Mr. Parm Hacker
Department of Natural Resources
32 South Ewing
Helena, Montana 59601

Dear Parm:

Four men have been awarded "The Range Man of the Year" award -
they are:

1. Phil Van Cleave --- Miles City - 1974
2. Frank Sparks --- Plevna - 1974
3. Mel Morris --- Missoula - 1975
4. Chuck Jarecki --- Polson - 1975

Two men were given the award each year, nobody followed up on
getting this done in 1976. I believe it is a good idea and I'm
certain Burlington Northern would provide the placques again.

I am enclosing a brief statement of how the R.A.D. range sub-
committee got started and some of the things they did. I hope it
is about what you wanted.

Enclosed you will also find a few miscellaneous pieces from my
R.A.D. Range subcommittee files.

Sincerely,

Torlief S. Aasheim, Chairman
State Rural Areas Development Committee

A BRIEF SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES OF THE RANGE SUBCOMMITTEE
OF THE STATE RURAL AREAS DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

On September 17, 1963 Don Ryerson, Extension Range Scientist, wrote to the Chairman of the State Rural Areas Development Committee (R.A.D.) documenting some opportunities for range improvement in Montana. In this same letter he asked the State R.A.D. Committee to create a range sub-committee. Mr. Ryerson followed this up with a letter on November 25 in which he stated in detail the needs for such a sub-committee and the many things they could do.

The State R.A.D. Executive Committee agreed to establish a range sub-committee as a result of Mr. Ryerson's suggestion. The sub-committee was given a charge to strive to accomplish the following purposes:

1. To increase awareness of range development potential and the beneficial effects on community and individual incomes.
2. Assist in obtaining and promoting the coordination of activities of private, state and federal organizations in range resource development.
3. Encourage development of educational programs showing the effect of the relationship of grazing use, recreational use, and watershed use of private, state and federal lands on community income, stabilization and welfare.
4. To assist in determining needs for research in range resource development and to create awareness of research needs.
5. To assist local development groups in giving adequate attention to range resource development when preparing overall economic development plans and developing specific projects.

The first meeting of the sub-committee was held in Bozeman on June 23, 1964. John Reichel was named chairman and Don Ryerson secretary. At this meeting several problems and opportunities for improving range management were discussed. It was generally agreed that a situation statement with regard to range conditions in Montana should be developed and that a plan should then be prepared to deal

effectively with the problems and opportunities given in the situation statement.

The sub-committee concentrated it's efforts on range tours for a number of years with special emphasis on involving bankers so they would better understand good range management practices. Some emphasis was placed on the theme "More money from fewer cows". Research and education programs being conducted in the State were thoroughly reviewed and support given for additional research and extension work. Each agency reviewed their programs and a better understanding of all agency programs and range analysis methods used was achieved. Several of the range schools were three day affairs conducted in the field with camp cooks and tents as food and sleeping accommodations.

In 1968 the sub-committee was again challenged by the State R.A.D. Committee Chairman to develop a range program for Montana and seek coordination of range work among agencies and organizations concerned with the range resource. He said the sub-committee should be concerned with identifying the major range problems of ranchers and recommend priority areas that should receive emphasis by the Committee.

In 1970 the Hill County Soil Conservation District Supervisors proposed that a Montana Range Land Resource plan be prepared and presented to the 1971 Montana Legislature. Pete Jackson was named to chairman a committee to formulate the plan. The R.A.D. Range sub-committee supported Hill County's proposal and it was subsequently approved by the State R.A.D. Executive Committee.

Rancher - hunter relationships have been a subject for much discussion during the life of the sub-committee.

In 1976 the Montana Range Land Resources program Advisory Council was asked to serve as the R.A.D. range sub-committee because there was duplication of membership and efforts. The Advisory Council agreed that they would serve in this capacity.

Individuals who have served as Chairman of the State Range Sub-committee are John Reichel, Jim Wempner, Pete Jackson, Jim Carrig and Cliff Haugen. John Vanisco now serves as Chairman of the combined committees.

STATE RAD COMMITTEE
PROPOSED BY-LAW CHANGES

September 27, 1977

The State RAD Committee met in Bozeman on September 14 and suggested proposed changes in the by-laws. These proposed changes will be presented at the annual meeting to be considered by the entire membership. You are invited to review the proposed changes and come to the annual meeting prepared to discuss the issues.

ARTICLE V - Executive Committee

Sec. 10. Any member, or alternate of the RAD Executive Committee who fails to attend three consecutive meetings of the committee shall be replaced in the same manner as if a vacancy occurred by death or resignation.

Proposed Change

If an elected position of the RAD Executive Committee is not represented by the elected member or designated alternate in three consecutive meetings, the position shall be declared vacant.

ARTICLE V - Executive Committee

Sec. 1. At the organizational meeting, the Montana RAD Committee shall elect an Executive Committee of ten members, plus a non-voting executive secretary, five of whom shall be elected for one year and five for two years. Thereafter, all members of the Executive Committee shall be elected for two years. All members of the Executive Committee shall continue in office until successors have been duly elected and qualified.

Proposed Change

At the organization meeting, the Montana RAD Committee shall elect a non-voting secretary. The Executive Committee shall consist of not more than 15 members, ten of which shall be elected by the general membership of RAD, and the other positions shall be held by the elected leaders of the general farm organizations and the Vice President for Extension.

Of the ten members elected by the general membership, five shall be elected for one year and five for two years. Thereafter, all members shall be elected for two years. All members of the Executive Committee shall continue in office until successors have been duly elected and qualified.

PROPOSED NEW ARTICLE

ARTICLE IX - Reports

Sec. 1. The chairman, with the aid of the secretary, shall be responsible for the preparation of an annual report covering activities and actions taken during the year. This report shall be prepared and distributed prior to March 1 of the following year and shall include an updated listing of members and subcommittees.

